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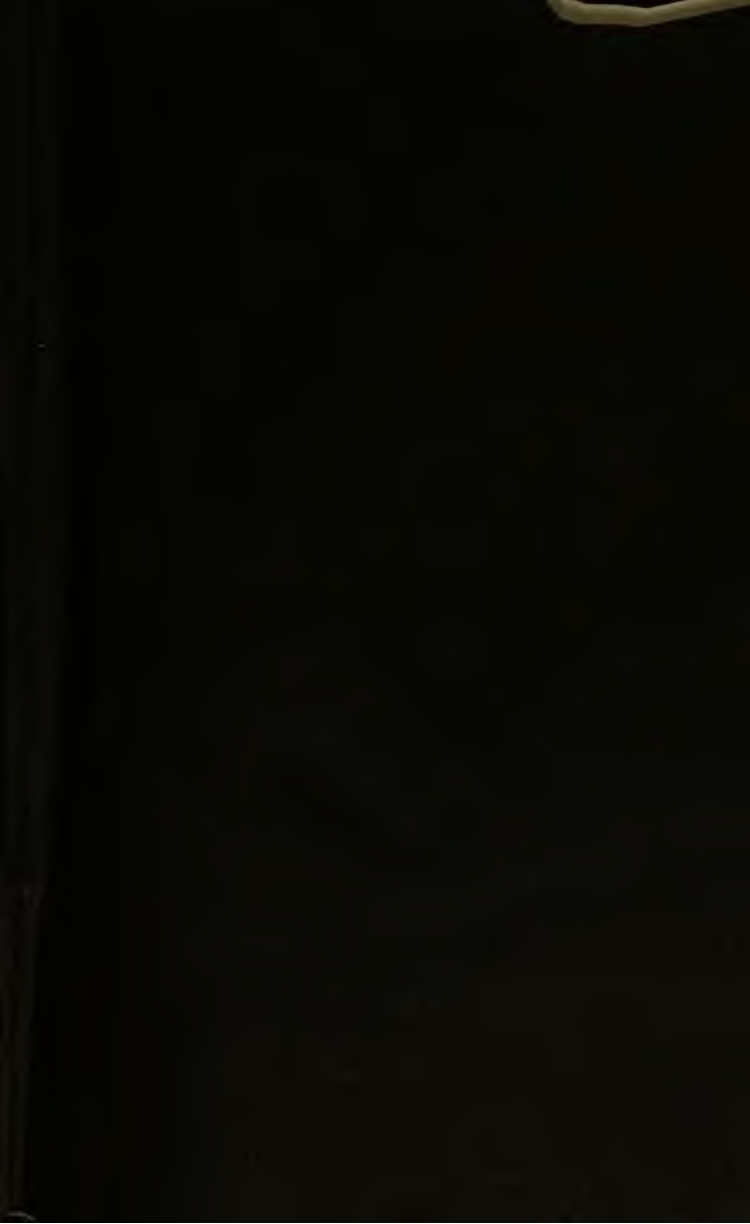
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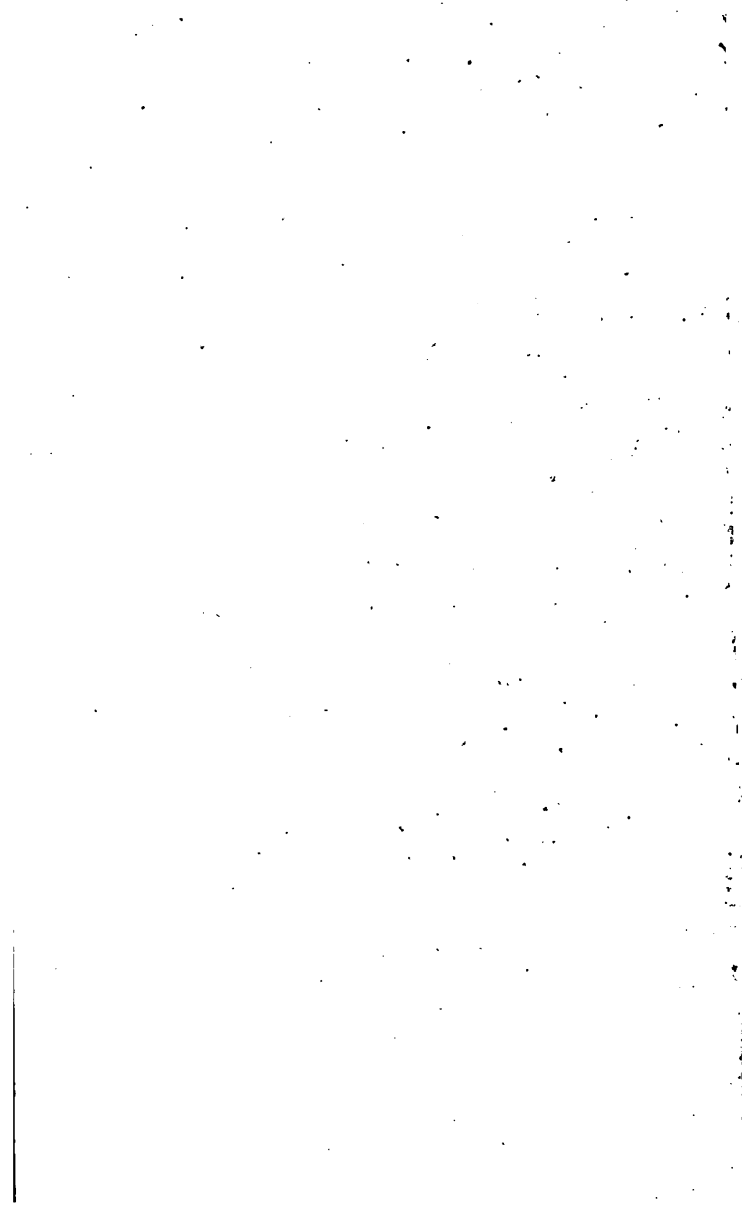


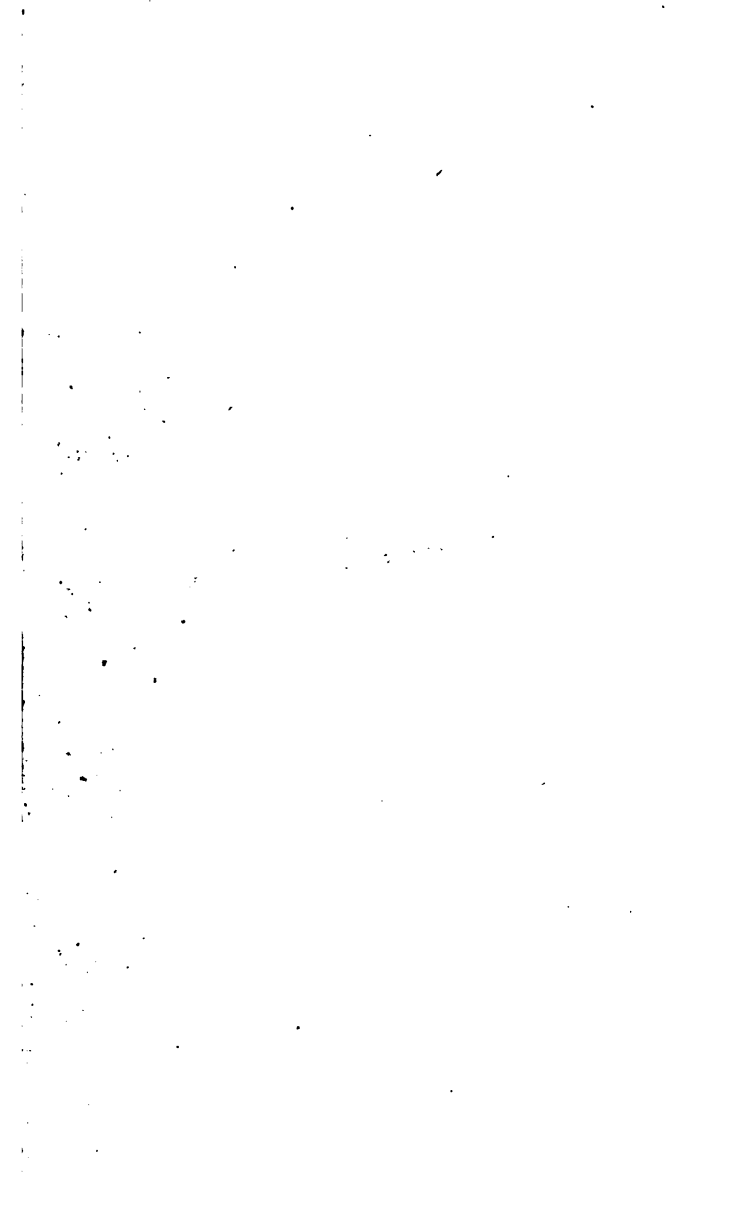
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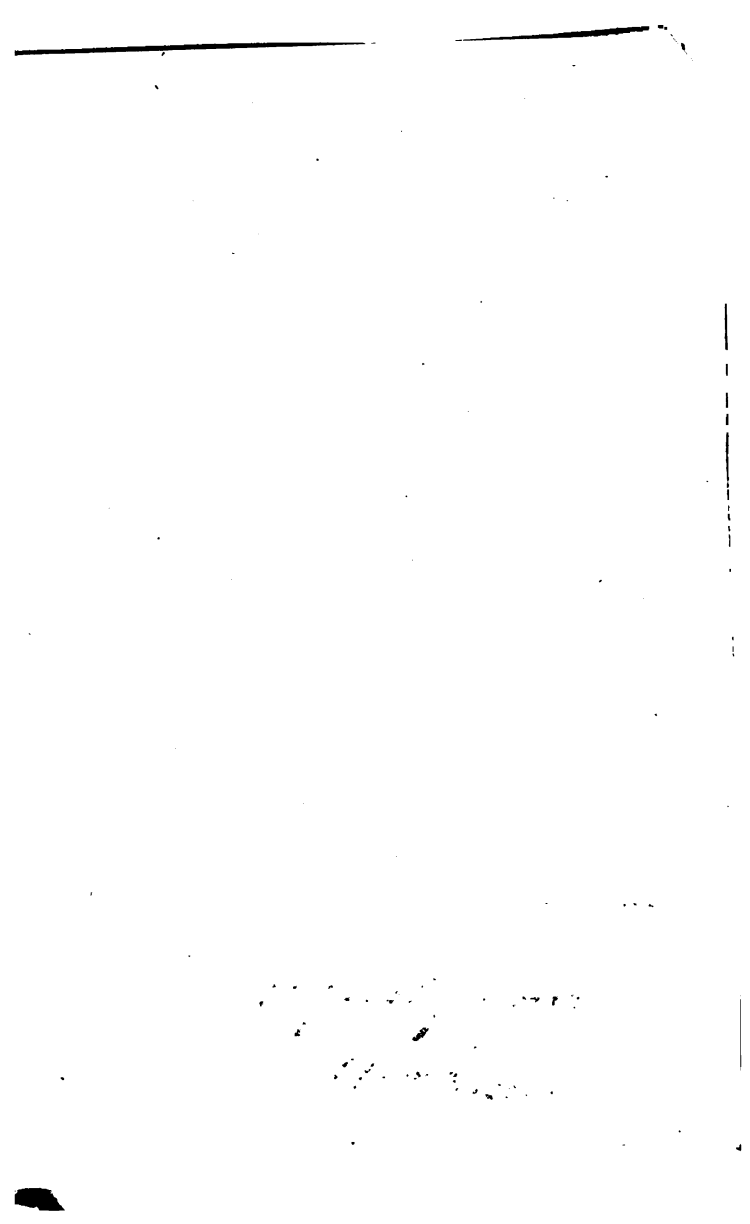








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THE

HISTORY & TOPOGRAPHY

OF THE TOWNSHIPS OF

LITTLE TIMBLE, GREAT TIMBLE

AND THE

HAMLET OF SNOWDEN,

IN THE

WEST RIDING OF THE COUNTY OF YORK.

BY

WILLIAM GRAINGE,

AUTHOR OF "THE BATTLES AND BATTLEFIELDS OF YORKSHIRE,"

"HISTORY OF HARROGATE AND THE FOREST OF
KNARESBOROUGH," ETC., ETC.

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Preface.



Y reasons for writing this minute piece of history and topography, treating of a district so small, and apparently so insignificant, as the Timbles and Snowden, may be briefly stated as follows:—A desire to put on record something of the history of the village of Great Timble, which has lately been so highly favoured as to become possessed of a free school and library, the munificent gift of a gentleman who can possibly have no other object in view than the mental and moral improvement of the villagers—a possession of which many a place with ten times its population and importance might be justly proud. Such gifts are not of momentary importance; they have an influence extending into future ages, and men and women yet unborn may bless the generous donor. Such actions need no eulogium from me, they speak for themselves with a voice far more distinct and emphatic than mine; yet, the simple recital of such actions may induce other wealthy men to “go and do likewise.”

Another reason, or perhaps an ambition, was to unravel the mystery of the building of Swinsty Hall—that lonely antique gem of the Washburn valley—to test the legend of its foundation, and trace the line of its real builders and owners; and in this object I think I have succeeded.

One more reason was to perpetuate the memory of the residence of Edward Fairfax, the Elizabethan poet, at Newhall, in Little Timble, before even the traditions attached to his name and fame have passed away. His house and lands have disappeared beneath an inland lake; and surely it is an act of

gratitude to attempt to wrest from oblivion the little that is known of the home of one so distinguished in his lifetime.

Snowden is included on account of its proximity, and its being a participant in the benefits accruing from the "Robinson Free School and Library," and also because it has not been mentioned by any of the historians of Wharfedale.

The district has not been distinguished for deeds of heroic virtue, nor, I am happy to say, rendered notorious by crime; it is possessed of no great baronial hall, no battle-field, no monastic establishment, not even a church; so its history must, of necessity, consist of a chronicle of small things; to collect these, and put them in order, has been my aim and object.

To those who have assisted me in the task, I beg to tender my sincere thanks, especially to the Rev. Thomas Parkinson, vicar of North Otterington; to the Rev. J. M. Ashley, vicar of Fewston, for allowing his parish registers to be searched; to the owners of Swinsty Hall, past and present, for much material relative to the mansion and estate; to C. A. Powell, Esq., solicitor, Harrogate, for much valuable information relative to the Forest of Knaresborough; and to Mr. John Dickinson, of Great Timble, for his industry in collecting materials for the history from all parts of the district.

W. G.

HARROGATE,

January 25th, 1895.

ERRATA.

Page 18, line 8, for "Tam Hill," read Tarn Hill.

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HISTORY AND TOPOGRAPHY

OF THE TOWNSHIPS OF

GREAT AND LITTLE TIMBLE.

Situation.

REAT and Little Timble are situate on the southern slope of the valley of the Washburn, an affluent of the river Wharfe, at a distance of six miles north-west of Otley, twelve miles south-east of Skipton, and nine miles south-west of Harrogate, in the West Riding of the County of York.

Boundaries.

As the townships are immediately contiguous, we shall include the boundaries of both in one description; and this we find partly done to our hands in the perambulations of the Forest of Knaresborough, especially the last, made in the year 1767, immediately before the enclosure of the said forest, of which Great Timble formed a part; and Little Timble, although belonging to the Archbishop

of York's Manor of Otley, is almost surrounded by lands belonging to the Forest of Knaresborough. "Starting from the Washburn at the foot of Timble Gill Beck, and so ascending up a branch of the said beck to the south end of Sewerbarge (now Sewerby) lane, and following the said branch, there called a syke, to the south-west corner of Sewerbarge field, which field is in the township of Timble, and from thence turning southward by an old syke (upon which syke part of a cottage standeth, and some encroachments have been made by the owners of a township called Askwith) to a parcel of rocks on the open common called Millstones; and so by the same syke to a place called Standing Stone, upon the Cross-ridge; and so up the same ridge to Dannockbower, sometimes called Ellerker-dike (the said forest being on or towards the north, and the open commons of Askwith and Denton on or towards the south), and so to Lipersley-pike; and from thence to Gaukhall Ridge, and so up Gaukhall Ridge to the rock called Gaukhall, where the open commons of Denton and Middleton, on the south, divide, and where those parts of the forest called Timble Moor and Blubberhouse Moor, on or towards the north, also divide."

Such is the southern boundary adjoining the parishes of Weston and Denton. Great Timble runs with a long point westward between Denton and Blubberhouses, the whole length in that direction being nearly four miles. The north-west boundary is formed by a brook which springs near Gaukhall; for

about half a mile it runs, a small nameless runnel, and then receives the name of Stainforth Gill, which name it bears for about a mile, with Sug Marsh and the Green Plain on the left, in Blubberhouses, and the Back Allotment, in Great Timble, on the right; thence the stream descends into the enclosed lands, and receives the name of Gill Beck. After passing under the Otley turnpike road at Gill Beck bridge, the name is changed to Thackray Beck, and shortly afterwards flows into the Fewston reservoir—belonging to the Leeds Corporation—having formed the boundary between Great Timble and Blubberhouses the whole length of its course, rising at an elevation of 1,100 feet, and losing its identity at 511 feet above the sea level.

The boundary of what may be called the Timble triangle, on the north-east side, was thus described in 1770:—"Starting from the foot of Timble Gill Beck, and so following the Washburn to Wroughten Wath, over which the road from Knaresborough to Timble leadeth, and still following Washburn to Fewston mill and Fewston bridge to a place where the old mill stood, whence the boundary between Great and Little Timble goeth southward by Mill Syke House, and thence to Timble Gill."

The boundary of Great Timble is the Washburn until its junction with Thackray Beck.

The present boundary on this side is formed by two large reservoirs belonging to the Leeds Corporation, more resembling natural mountain lakes than artificial creations, the

"Swinsty," covering 156 acres, immediately above which is the "Fewston," of 155 acres. So the old boundary has been destroyed, and an entirely new one formed.

Geological Formation, Soil, and Scenery.

The townships of Great and Little Timble are situate on a round-backed ridge of land running east and west, between the Washburn and Timble Gill. This ridge rests on a hard bed of the millstone grit series, with a north-easterly dip ; it crops out in several places, at Timble Ridge and White Crag on the north, and near Swinsty Hall on the east. It is a gritstone, but the particles are so small as almost to be confluent, and of a yellowish-white colour. It is frequently used for building purposes, but is too hard to be worked by the chisel. When placed in position it is of everlasting duration. On this hard bed of stone rests a thin seam of coal, a few inches in thickness. When the Leeds Corporation reservoirs were formed, it was cut into on both sides of the Fewston embankment. Attempts were made many years ago to work it, as is evident from the names of fields, as Coalpit Close, Pithill, and Pithill Lane.

The old enclosed lands, under careful cultivation, produce heavy crops of grass ; but the situation is too high and too much exposed for corn to ripen in the average of seasons. The highest part, Gaukhall Ridge, has not been touched by the hand of cultivation, and is

abandoned to a breed of black-faced, long-legged, half-wild sheep, flocks of red grouse, plovers, curlews, snipes, ring-ouzel, and other mountain-loving birds. The vegetation is principally composed of heath and marsh plants, as the common ling, heath, cross-leaved heath, crowberry, whortleberry, cowberry, the bent or heath rush, the smooth bent mat grass, and hair grass; the prevailing ferns are the common brake and the hard fern. Mosses and lichens are abundant, amongst the most beautiful of the latter is the reindeer moss. On the swampy parts grow cotton grass and rushes in abundance, the sundew, and many other mountain and aquatic plants.

The scenery of the district, though varied and pleasing, is not grand and romantic, the hills being more like undulations of the ground than mountains. On the north-west side the lower reaches of Gill Beck and Thackray Beck present some pieces of fine rural scenery, and Timble Gill, on the southern side, is possessed of much interest and beauty. We explored it some years ago for a specific purpose, and we now give an extract from a note made on that occasion, and we give it the more readily as it also contains some of the legendary lore of the district. In Fairfax's *Dæmonologia*, p. 107, Ed. 1882—it is stated that on April 10th, 1622: "All the witches had a feast at Timble Gill; their meat was roasted about midnight. At the upper end of the table sat their master, viz., the devil; at the lower end, Dibb's wife, who provided for the feast, and was the cook."

As this remarkable feast took place in Timble Gill, we determined to explore the glen, and see if we could find any place therein suitable for such a purpose. Selecting a day in Spring, a little earlier in the year than that on which the witches' feast took place, we approached the spot from the village of Great Timble (from which the upper end is distant about half a mile in a southerly direction), down a narrow lane called "The Bridle Road," and a very old road it is, and much in the same state as when the witches and their master passed along it to feast in the gill. It has been frequented in old times by pack horses only, and towards the brook is deeply worn into the ground, the banks on each side overgrown with wild flowers, and the hedges above almost touching each other form an arcade of foliage. At the bottom is the brook, or beck, which is crossed by a ford, or wath. This ford is the scene of a legend of the class which Edward Fairfax would have readily believed, and which holds a place in rustic belief even now. Many years ago, a man of the name of Wardman was most foully murdered at this place by a blow on the head with the butt end of a gun. His restless ghost afterwards haunted the scene of his murder, terrifying travellers who were so unfortunate as to pass that way after nightfall. This at length became such a nuisance (flay-bogle was the word used) that a determination was come to by the villagers to have it conjured down to keep the peace; and a Romish priest was employed for that purpose, who overcame the

simplicity of the poor wanderer of the night by the old trick of a burning candle. It consented to be bound down until the candle should be burnt, when the wily conjuror threw it into a deep hole in the brook, so that it never could be burnt, and the poor ghost never more at liberty to wander abroad. The gill, or glen, is neither remarkably deep nor wide; the narrow strip of woodland which fringes the sides of the watercourse is seldom more than one hundred yards across, while the depth of the ravine is only about one hundred feet. It has evidently been worn by water at some remote period, chiefly through beds of sandy shale. The sides of the glen are clothed principally with a growth of native timber, in some places intermixed with larches. All the ground was overspread with a carpet of wood anemone in full bloom, intermingled with countless thousands of primroses, while the hyacinth and forget-me-not were springing up ready to supply a second bloom of beauty. A footpath crosses the stream in one place by means of a bridge made of the trunk of a single tree, without any handrail, resting upon abutments of masonry of the most primitive kind. A little lower down is the only place where we thought it likely that the witches and their master could have spread their table. There the stream runs close to the northern side of the glen, and has formed a cliff of black shale of considerable height, overhung with oaks and other forest trees; on the opposite side is a piece of level ground, some twenty or thirty yards in each direction, which


would afford them space to sit and eat ; but if they indulged much in dancing afterwards, there is not room enough in the glen—they would have to do it on broomsticks in the air above. We followed the glen and its streamlet until the sides of the first subsided and were lost in the wider valley of the Washburn, and the latter mingled itself with the waters of the same stream. A pleasant walk it was, the brook making music below, and the birds pouring out much louder music above ; around were flowers, woods and hills, all alike pleasing. We could hardly conceive a scene more unfitted for the purpose by which it is said above to have been desecrated.

“O, better were its banks assigned
To spirits of a gentler kind.”

Height of different places in the district
above the level of the sea :—

	FEET.
Foot of Timble Gill	359
Swinsty Hall	496
Fewston Embankment	511
The Tarn, Swinsty Moor	530
Nether Timble Farm.....	536
Gill Beck Bridge.....	568
White Crag.....	590
Timble Ridge.....	700
New School.....	721
Methodist Chapel	736
Head of Great Timble	754
Fox Crag	800
Lipersley Pike.....	1,083
Gaukhall Ridge	1,100

Little Timble.

ITTLE Timble is one of those small, remote, and almost inaccessible places which are seldom visited by the tourist, and as seldom recorded by the local historian or antiquary; indeed, such places generally afford but little matter to the historian or topographer; yet this township contains two objects which give it an interest over many of greater territorial extent and population—these are Swinsty Hall and Newhall, the history of which is now given for the first time. Of the early history of Timble, little is known, and we dare not attempt to give an etymology of its name. The derivation of *Timble Bridge*, Leeds, given by Thoresby, and others, as a corruption of *Temple Bridge*, from the knights of that order having possessions there, and building the bridge, hence *Templars' Bridge*, will not do here, as no Templars ever held possessions of any kind in either Timble; besides, the name is of greater antiquity than that of the Templars themselves.

The early inhabitants of Little Timble have left few, if any, monuments of their existence; the Celt has not piled up the soil into a burial mound; the Roman has left none of his handiwork, although coins of his mintage

have been found in Norwood,* a mile to the eastward, and a road of his making connecting the stations of Isurium and Olicana passed about two miles to the westward. The Saxon, or rather the Angle, came and gave a portion of the district the name of Swinsty, the swine's path; quickly afterwards came the Northman and gave a name to Tam Hill. The first record of its existence is in the great survey made by the Norman Conqueror in A.D. 1086, where it is mentioned as a berewic in the Manor of Otley, forming part of the great feudal fee of Cawood, Wistow, and Otley, over which the Archbishops of York possessed almost regal authority, and which is said to have been given to them by King Athelstane. Nothing can be more brief than the mention of this place, the single word *Timbe*† alone indicates its existence; no distinct quantity, quality, or value is given; the probability is that it was "wood pasture," and, like the greatest part of the manor, "waste." The

* About the year 1830, a farmer, ploughing in a field near Lindley Wood, turned up what he at first deemed some rust of iron, but on kicking it with his foot he observed some small copper coins, about as many as would fill a pint measure. They appear to have been enveloped in a leathern purse; many of them were much corroded; the inside ones were more perfect. They proved to be Roman coins, chiefly of the Emperors Gallienus, Hadrian, Tetricus, Victorinus, Aurelianus, Diocletianus, Constantius and Constantine. *Shaw's Wharfedale*, p. 116.

In 1892, about thirty coins were found by Joseph Steele, of Sword Point, Norwood. They had been carefully walled up in a crevice at the foot of a large crag, in a rough piece of ground, a few hundred yards south of Scough Hall. They were principally of silver, and of the time of Philip and Mary.

† Bawden's Dom. Boc., p. 52.

Archbishops of York continued superior lords of the fee, of which Timble forms a part, until the year 1837, when they were superseded by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, who now exercise what now remains of the authority once held by those great feudal prelates. It is from the registers of the Archbishops that our earliest information respecting this township is derived.

Amongst the earliest land owners here of whom we have any mention was one which took its surname from the place of its abode. In a grant of land (sans date) in Farnley from Robert de Lelay to Archbishop Grey (1215-1255), the name of "Ysack de Timbel" occurs as a witness. *Register of Archbishop Grey*, p. 280, *Surtees Soc.*

On November 1st, 1298, Robert Timble, in Otley, did homage to the Archbishop of York for tenements in Timble, owning suit and service of Court and an annual payment of 26s. 8d. His claim was not admitted at that time, but remanded for further inquiry. *Register of Archbishop Newark, Kirkby Inquest, &c.*, p. 402, *Surtees Soc.*

On September 21st, 1315, John de Tymble made homage for one carucate of land in Tymble, held by knight's service, suit of Court, and an annual rent of 26s. 8d. *Ibid*, p. 410.

In 1379, John Tymble and his wife, living in Thruscross, paid poll tax.

In the thirty-first year of the reign of Edward I., in an enumeration of the Knights' Fees in the wapentake of Claro, "Parva

Tymble" is entered for one carucate of land of the fee of the Archbishop of York, where twelve carucates of land make a knight's fee. *Knights' Fees in York, p. 204, Surtees Soc.*

In the list of places which contributed to the "Aid" granted to King Edward I., in 1290, for the marriage of his eldest daughter, "Parva Tymbel" again appears with its one carucate of land, and a contribution of 20d., with a residue to be received by the Sheriff. *Ibid, p. 294.*

In the year 1302, the Archbishop of York granted the wardship and marriage of John, son of Richard, son of Robert de la Sale, of Timble, to William le Serjaunt, of Bloberhouses, until the legal age of the said John. *Ibid, 425. From Register of Archbishop Corbridge.*

On July 30th, 1371, in the Archbishop's Court at Thorpe, Walter, son of John del Wode, made homage to the superior lord for lands which he claimed to hold of the Manor of Otley in Timble. *Ibid, p. 420.*

The Legend of the Building of Swinsty Hall.

A region of repose it seems,
A place of slumber and of dreams,
Remote among the rugged hills.

Swinsty Hall is the best, most substantial, and majestic of the old halls which grace the valley of the Washburn; many chimneyed,

many gabled, grey and grand, it stands amid a solitude of woods and fields a pile of mystery, surrounded by legends, and until now its builder's name and history alike unknown. There is no road, not even a paved trackway for pack horses, leading to it from any quarter. There is no stone quarry near from which it has been hewn, and yet it has been piled stone upon stone at a great cost of time and labour. We might almost be tempted to think that some mighty magician had moved it by his art from some other locality, and placed it here, as the place of concealment of some enchanted beauty. The popular mind, sorely puzzled to account for its existence, invented a legend of a poor adventurous weaver, a plague smitten city, and a waggon load of gold, to the following effect :—The builder of the Hall was a man named Robinson, who in his youth was a poor weaver, and resided in a humble cottage near where the Hall now stands. This young man left his home, travelled to London, at a time when the plague was raging dreadfully in that city, and death had left many dwellings totally desolate and uninhabited, wherein no survivors were left to bury the dead, and no heirs to claim their wealth. Seeing this state of things, our north country adventurer took possession of the gold thus left without an owner, to such an extent that he loaded a waggon and team of horses with the wealth thus acquired, and with which he returned home ; but the story of the plague had reached Swinsty as soon as himself, and in spite of all

his gold, none of his former neighbours would admit him into their houses for fear of contagion. In this dilemma he took up his abode in a barn, which yet exists; and in order to cleanse his gold from any infectious taint which might possibly cling to it, he washed the whole carefully in the Green Well Spring, which yet remains bearing the same name. With the wealth thus acquired, he purchased the estate and built the Hall at Swinsty.

All the accessories are here to render the story complete and give it a semblance of truth, the barn remains in which he slept until the sun and wind of Swinsty had removed the deadly miasma which might have clung to him during his perilous adventures in the plague-smitten city, the Green Well Spring yet flows in which he washed his gold, to free it from all contagious taint, the Hall, which that gold was the means of building, and finally his descendants, named Robinson, who held possession of it until within the period of living memory. Can any story be more complete, or rest on better circumstantial evidence? And yet we are sorry to say that our researches have demolished this legend, and substituted nothing so romantic and interesting in its place.

Family of Wood, of Swinsty.

We have already shown that Walter, son of John del Wood, was living in Little Timble in A.D. 1371. The Poll Tax roll gives us

another glimpse of Timble in the year 1379.

	<i>d.</i>
Walter del Wode (carpenter) and his wife	6
Richard Paytson and his wife	4
William Milner and his wife	4
Robert Wrightson and his wife	4
Agnes Paytson	4
Agnes, daughter of William Milner	4
	<hr/>
Sums	<u>2</u> <u>2</u>

Thus we see that there were but four families in Timble, named Wood, Paytson, Milner, and Wrightson, and the population would be about 20.

In the pedigree of Clapham, of Beamsley, Walter Wood, of Little Timble, is stated to have married Agnes, daughter of William Clapham—no date given.

In the proceedings on the trial, by which it was sought to eject Sir Robert Plumpton from his patrimonial estates in Yorkshire, January 18th, 20th of King Henry VII., 1504, Walter Woode, Esquire, and Thomas Wood, Richard Wood, Lancelot Wood, and Myles Wood, yeomen, were witnesses in favour of Sir Robert Plumpton. *Plumpton Correspondence*, p. *cjx*.

In "The Register of the Guild of Corpus Christi," York, published by the Surtees Society, under the year 1495, occurs the name of Egid Wod, to which the editor, Mr. Robert Hardisty Skaife, appends the following note:—Probably Giles Wood, of Pickering, yeoman (living in 1523), brother of Richard Wood, of Timble, in the parish of Fewston.

His son, Richard Wood, of Pickering, gentleman, died in 1568, leaving, with other issue, a younger son, Anthony, who settled at Copmanthorpe, and was grandfather of John Wood, Lord Mayor of York in 1682, from whom the Woods of Hollin Hall, near Ripon, are descended.

"Richard Wode, of Tymyll, gentilman," made his will May 12th, 1523 (proved June 16th, 1523), in which he desired to be "beriede in the churche yerde of Saynt Mychaell at Fuyston." He mentions "William, my son, Christopher Lyndeley and John Jeffraye, my feoffes, and all my foreste lands—Agnès, my wife—the agreement between me and Mr. Ralph Pullande, concerning the marriage between my son and his daughter." Supervisors, "Mr. Christ. Clapham, esquire, Giles Wod, my broder, Christ. Lyndeley, gent., and John Jeffraye, yeoman. R.H.S."

In the Inquisition *post mortem* of Richard Wood, of Pickering, gentleman, held September 18th, 10th of Elizabeth (1567), amongst other lands at Pickering, Ebberston, Middleton, Copmanthorpe, and elsewhere, the said Richard was also seised of a messuage called the Bakehouse, and three oxgangs, and of divers lands and tenements in the Forest of Knaresborough; and of divers lands at Nether Dunsforth, the which he gave by his will to his wife, Isabella, in contentment of her dower, for her life. R.H.S.

At or before this time the family of Wood had built themselves a comfortable and

substantial dwelling in Timble, which bore the name of Swinsty Hall. The building yet remains (somewhat altered), in the shape of the letter T, forming what we will call the north-western wing of the hall. It is only two stories in height; its windows divided by stone mullions, and its clustered chimneys placed lozenge wise on the roof; some of the floors exhibit ingenious specimens of carpenter's work. This portion will be afterwards spoken of as the *Old Hall*.

In 1575, Ralph Wood was the owner of Swinsty Hall, whose eldest son and heir apparent was named Francis; and from the marriage settlement of this son we learn when and why the *New Hall* at Swinsty was built.

By an Indenture dated xvijth of October, xvijth of Elizabeth (1575), and made between Ralphe Wood, of Lyttle Tymble, in the countie of York, esquire, and Ffraunces Wood, sonne and heir apparent of the said Ralphe, of the one part, and Henry Sotell, of North Grange, in the countie of York, esquire, of the other part: "By this document it is agreed that the said Francis shall, by the grace of Almighty God, marry and take to wife Ellen Sotell, one of the natural daughters of the said Henry, and her espouse after the laws of the holy church, at or before the feast of Phillip and James, Apostles, next ensuing after the date hereof. And the said Ellen will thereunto condycende and agree." "And the said Henry Sotill doth promise to pay unto the said Fraunces Wood one hundred marks of good and lawful English money, in manner

and form following, that is to say, forty pounds, parcel of the said hundred marks, at the feast of the Annunciation of our blessed Lady the Virgin; and twenty-one pounds, thirteen shillings and fourpence, residue of the said sum, at the feast of the Assumption of the said blessed Lady the Virgin, which shall be in the year of our Lord God, one thousand five hundred seventy and eight. And the said Henry, his heirs, executors, or assigns, shall build a convenient house at Swinsty Hall for the said Fraunces and Ellen, at the proper costs and charges of the said Henry. And if the said howse be not builded within a year next after the said marriage had and solemnized between the said Fraunces and Ellen, as aforesaid, that then the said Henry to give to the said Fraunces and Ellen their boarder, until the said howse be builded and finished. And the said howse shall be builded at the discretion of the said Henry."

Our belief is that the said house was not finished within the year, but that the said Henry had to provide the newly married pair with "their boarder" for a somewhat lengthened period afterwards. For the new architect, clinging close to the old site, designed a bold and imposing fabric, three stories in height; the south front consisting of a centre with two projecting wings, like square towers, which terminate in small gables surmounted by pinnacles. The central part is pierced with windows into the principal rooms of twenty lights each. The number of lights in this front alone is upwards

of a hundred ; behind was placed a range of rooms of ample number and dimensions for the accommodation of a numerous household, and the practice of hospitality on a large scale.

Whether it was that the “condycendyng” Ellen was not a thrifty dame, or the new establishment was too extensive and costly for the means of the favoured “Fraunces,” we know not ; but he soon had to borrow money and mortgage the estate, and finally quit the new mansion, and allow his creditor to take possession thereof. That creditor was Henry Robinson, of Old Lound, in the county of Lancaster, yeoman, who in the year 1590, for the sum of two thousand pounds previously advanced to Francis Wood, became possessed of Swinsty Hall, and divers lands, tenements, and hereditaments in “Lytle Tymble.” The deed conveying the same is signed by Francis Wood, who at that time resided at Arthington Grange, but is styled “late of Swinsty Hall.” In 1596, Henry Robinson purchased from Ralph Wood, gent., and Katherine, his wife, and Francis Wood and his wife, eight messuages and four cottages, with lands in Little Tymble and Otley.

Very little more remains to be said of the family of Wood, of Timble, here. In 1584-5 Franciscus Wood de Little Timble, gent., was summoned to attend the Herald’s Visitation, and record his pedigree ; but he apparently did not do so, as no pedigree is recorded. The following imperfect entry on the first page of the Fewston parish register appears

to be the only memorial in that document belonging to this family: "1593——of Frances Wood, bap. 8th January."

The Family of Robinson, of Swinsty Hall.

Henry Robinson, the next owner of Swinsty Hall, is the likeliest man to have obtained the waggon load of gold; but the place to which he carried it would be Old Laund, and not Swinsty. At any rate, he was certainly a wealthy man, and in the habit of lending money on bonds, some of which yet exist; one dated in 1601 is from William Wood, of Ebberston, near Scarborough, for £50; another, dated 1625, is from Richard Matthews, of Braham Lane, in the Forest of Knaresborough, for £204; to this last are appended the names of eight witnesses. He is mentioned by Edward Fairfax in his "Demonologia," who also alludes to some litigation between them, of which we have no further information. It was during the witchcraft mania of 1622, when the children of Fairfax were suffering from some strange malady, fancied, or real. "On Thursday, the 21st of March, the strange woman appeared to my eldest daughter, being in trance, and told her that she had been at Robinson's wife's bedside on the night, and that Robinson's wife would either kill herself or some other, and then they would have her, as she had

none to read to her or instruct her." "This Robinson's wife here named, is a near neighbour to us, of good estate, and is a very good and honest woman. She is in a strange case, and often moved to destroy herself or her child, or some of the family. Her husband is a great favourer of these women questioned, especially of Elizabeth Foster, usually called Bess Foster, who is very familiar in his house; yet he hath little cause to do so, for besides the trouble of his wife, he had a former wife bewitched to death by the witches of Lancashire, as in the book made of those witches, and their actions and executions you may read. But I forbear to say much of my neighbour, Henry Robinson, for that at this time there is some unkindness and questions of law betwixt us." *Demonologia*, p. 93.

Henry Robinson was twice married, and had a family of two sons and three daughters. He made his will in 1638, of which we have been favoured with a copy through the kindness of the Rev. Thomas Parkinson, vicar of North Otterington, author of "Leaves and Lays of the Forest," "Yorkshire Legends and Traditions," &c., &c.

WILL OF HENRY ROBINSON, OF SWINSTY
HALL.

In the name of God, Amen. The eleventh day of April, Anno Dni, 1638, I, Henerie Robinson, of Swinsty Hall, in the Countie of York, Gent., sicke in bodie, but of good and p'fect memorie, praise God, Knowing deathe to be certaine, and the time and houre thereof

most uncertain, and seeing many suits and troubles and inconveniences to arise after the death of such as die intestate; desirous with myselfe, and minding to prevent the same, do hereby constitute, ordain, and make this my present testament, containing herein my last will; and hereby revoking all former and other wills, in manner and form following. And first, and principallie, I commit my soule to Almighty God, my creator, hoping by the p'cious blood-shedding of Jesus Christ, my redeemer, to bee one of those that shall be saved at the most dreadful day of Judgment, and my bodie I commit to the earth, from whence I came, to be buried, where it shall please the Lord to dispose of it. And Whereas I stand seased in ffee of land, in one Capitall messuage, other messuages, cottages, lands, tenements, and hereditaments, situate, lying, and beinge in Little Timble, within the P'ish of Otley, in the Countie of York, and now in the tenure of mee, the said Henrie Robinson, my assign or assigns. Nevertheless, have agreed that all that messuage and other the lands and tenements, aforesaid, shall descend, and shall devolve upon John Robinson, my eldest sonne, and his heires, after my decease, in possession or reversion, after the jointure or dower of Jennet, now my wife, and after the expiracion of an Estate made of some p'cel thereof, now being in Tenutrix of Mary, my daughter, during four score years, if she live soe long, uppon the payment of three hundreth pounds to mee, my executors, or assigns, within three years next after the day

of the date hereof; for w'ch, as yet, I have received no securitie, or other satisfaction, for the payment thereof; and to th' end the saide some of three hundreth pounds may be secured to bee paid in such manner and sort as is therefore expressed, I doe hereby demise, limit, bequeath, and appoint one third part—the whole into three parts to be divided—of all that the saide capitall messuage, buildings, lands, tenements, and hereditaments, situate, lying and beinge in Little Timble, afores'd, withe there and everie of there appurtenances, now beinge in my own possession, to the use and behoofe of William Frankland, of Thurtleby, in the saide countie of York, Esqre., and Nicholas Cunliffe, of Wicoles, in the countie of Lanc., Gent., and their assignes, with all easments, p'fitts, comodities, ways, watercourses to the same belonging, or in anywise appertaining, to have and to hold the said one third p't of the said Capital Messuage, buildings, lands, tenem'ts, and hereditaments, and all and singular there and everie of the appurtenances, to them the said William Frankland and Nicholas Cunliffe, from the day of my decease, for and during the whole term of Twentie yeares thenceforth next after following fullie to be compleat and ended. Nevertheless, upon trust and confidence that the said William Frankland and Nicholas Cunliffe, and their assignes, shall dispose and convert the issues and p'fitts thereof to such use, uses, intents and purposes, conditions, limitations, prov'ses as are herein hereafter expressed in this my

p'sent last will—p'vided, nevertheless, that if the said John Robinson, my said sonne, or his heires doe and shall content and paye, or secure to content and paye, the said some of three hundreth pounds within the said terme of three yeares, according to the tenor of this said agreement, that then this devise, limitation, or bequeath, shall be utterlie voyd to all intents, constructions, and purposes whatsoever. And my will and mind in the devising, limiting, and appointing for the payments of the said three hundreth pounds, soe to be raysed out of the p'fitts of the said lands by paym'ts or securities from my said sonne, shall be equally divided between Henry Robinson, my second sonne, and Edith Robinson, my daughter, as the said p'fitts or paym'ts shall respectively happen to arise or fall. And as touching my worldlie goods, my will and mind is—ffirst my debts shall be paid, and my funeral expenses shall bee discharged, and after that the rest of my said goods shall be divided into three equall p'ts, one p'te whereof belongeth to Jennit, my wife, w'ch hereby I ratifie and confirm, the other—in regard I have otherwise p'ferred all my children, with which I wish them to be content—I give and bequeath in manner and forme following: that is to say, to my daughter Marye, in bedding and what other household goods she is willing, or in money, at her choyse, xx^{li}. To the children of Margaret, my daughter, xx^{li}, to be equalie divided amongst them. The rest of all my goods, as well moveable as unmoveable, I

give and bequeath unto the said Henrie Robinson, my sonne, and Edith Robinson, my daughter, equally to be divided between them. And, lastly, I constitute, ordaine, and make the said Nicholas Cunliffe and the said Henrie Robinson executors of this my p'ste testament, hoping they will see the same p'formed according to my trust reposed in them. In Witness, I have subscribed my name and signed with my seale the day and yeare first written—By mee, Henrie Robinson. Witnesses hereof, James Brown, John Cunliffe, William Thorpe, Ellis Cunliffe, 19th November, 1639.

(Codicil joined to the will, written in continuation immediately beneath.)

Also my will and mind is—and I give and bequeath to my daughter, Margaret, xx^{li}, and to Ann Vinas, daughter of the said Margaret, other xx^{li}; and doe appoint that shee shall have one p'te of that xx^{li} formerly given to the said Margaret's children. Item. I give and bequeath to the said Edith, my daughter, and her heires, two acres of freehold land lying in Hampsthwaite. Also, I give and bequeath to John Robinson, my eldest sonne, all my timber fallen and broken about my house. In Witness whereof I put my hand, the day and year last above written. Att w'ch time he likewise declared that the said Edith Robinson, his daughter, should pay one hundreth pounds to or unto the sole use of Robert Midgley, infant, within one yeare, according to the contents of a conditionall surrender made by him to said Edith, of

certaine coppie hold lands lying within the forest of Knaresborough, if he died of that sicknesse of which hee then was sicke. Witnesses hereof, Nicholas Cunliffe, John Robinson, Joshua Warsill, Henry Robinson, John Kendall.

The William Frankland, named first trustee in the above will, was owner of Blubberhouses, and also of Cragg Hall, in Fewston, then resident at Thirkleby, near Thirsk. He represented the borough of Thirsk in Parliament in 1628 and 1640.

The Cunliffes were of "Cunliffe Hollings and Whycollar," in the township of Myerscough, in the parish of Lancaster, about three miles south of Garstang. In the great civil war between the King and the Parliament, they took the side of the latter, and in 1647 Nicholas Cunliffe, Esq., and Robert Cunliffe, Gent., along with other gentlemen of Lancashire, were appointed a committee for the sequestration of the "heart-malignants" of that county. The family yet reside at Myrescough House. The name once occurs in the Fewston Register:—"1601. Robert Cunliffe had a child bur. 26th June." The same register records the death of Henry Robinson. "1639. Mr. Henrie Robinson, of Swinstie Hall, was bur. 25th Nov."

After an interval of twenty-three years we find:—"1662. Mrs. Jennet Robinson, of Swinstie Hall, was bur. 1st March."

An Inquisition, *post mortem*, was held at Ripon, July 23rd, 1640, concerning the estates and death of the said Henry Robinson, before

Thomas Hutton, Esq., and the following jury :—Richard Parker, Gent., Charles Elsley, Matthew Wood, William Stephenson, Christopher Yeates, Walter Buckell, Thomas Armistead, Peter Chappelthorpe, Charles Loup, Charles Elsley, Thomas Topham, Richard Dickinson, Henry Palphreyman, and Charles Fawber, good and lawful men, who on their oath say—that the aforesaid Henry Robinson, at the time of his decease, was seised in fee of a mansion or capital messuage, called Swinsty Hall, with purtinents; and five other messuages or tenements; and various parcels of meadow or pasture land; also a large pasture, commonly known as Swinsty Wood; and common of pasture for sheep and cattle in the Forest of Knaresborough, of the annual value of nine shillings. And that the said Henry Robinson departed this life some time before the last day of November last, before the holding of this inquest. And they also say that the capital messuage, tenements, and lands in Little Timble, were held by the said Henry Robinson, of the Archbishop of York, by knight's service, as the fourth part of a fee, and an annual rent of twenty-two shillings and two pence. And also, that John Robinson is son and heir of the said Henry Robinson, and is of the age of twenty-nine years and upwards.

John Robinson, who succeeded to the Swinsty estate, was married before his father's death; we only know that his wife's name was Jane, and that she was buried

August 30th, 1693. The names and dates of the baptism of his children are chiefly from the Fewston Register:—Marie, bap. 11th Sep., 1638. Frances, bap. Feb. 12th, 1642. Margaret, bap. Jan. 1st, 1644. Henry, bap. at Otley, Sep. 24th, 1647. John, bap. 4th August, 1650. Edward, bap. 23rd June, 1653. Walter, bap. July 12th, 1654, buried Oct. 17th in the same year. Walter, bap. Jan. 24th, 1658; and on November 23rd, 1693, John Robinson himself was buried.

On the 3rd of June, 1667, John Robinson gave to his daughter Mary, "All that messuage, tenement, or farmhold, in the occupation of Ralphe Gill, situate, lying, and being in Little Timble." The said Mary, in 1669, was married to Michael Longbotham, of Hellwick, in the county of York, yeoman.

Besides giving the farm already mentioned to his daughter Mary, John Robinson further divided the estate in his lifetime, giving the part called the Old Hall, and divers buildings and lands, to his second son, also named John Robinson; who on April 13th, 1681, disposed of the same to his brother Henry, then of Bradford Moor Side, for the merely nominal consideration of five shillings in hand. The parcels are thus described:—"All that part, and so much of one capitall messuage, called Swinsty Hall, which is commonly called or known by the name of the Old Hall, and doth contain several rooms. And also one building adjoining the same, now used for a stable and an henne house, and the moiety or half part of one house or building called

the shopp. And also the laith, or barn, commonly called the cow barn, standing on the south side of the said capital messuage. And also full and free liberty to use the cow house belonging to the said capital messuage. And also full and free liberty for swine, geese, and other poultry, to feed and be kept about the said hall and barnes, at their free will and pleasure. And also the moiety, or half part of the garden; and one parcel of land called the Upper Orchard, one croft or parcel of land called Tom Croft Head. And also all that messuage, or tenement, commonly called or known by the name of the Gill Farm."

The other part of the estate, consisting of that portion called the New Hall, with divers buildings, one of which is called the oven house, and certain lands, are given to trustees by John Robinson, the elder, for the use of his son and heir apparent, Henry Robinson, by deed dated November 15th, 1683.

John Robinson, second son, born 1650, died 1703, settled at Hampsthwaite, and married Ann Beckwith, aunt to Sir Roger Beckwith, by whom he had two daughters—Frances, who was married at Hampsthwaite, Nov. 15th, to Cuthbert Chambers, a physician, of Ripon, who was twice mayor of that town. She was his second wife, and survived him many years. She gave by her will, in 1746, a silver gilt paten, for use in Ripon Minster, which is yet in existence. Mary, his second daughter, married May 3rd, 1698, Miles Staveley. Her will is dated April 29th, 1724. Her father, John Robinson, left her a farm in

Timble; and her uncle, Henry Robinson, in his will left her a legacy of 20s. At this point begins the connection of the family of Staveley with the Swinsty Hall estate.

On the 27th of March, 1706, Henry Robinson, of Swinsty Hall, gentleman, settled on his wife, Anne Shaw (evidently a widow, for he mentions her sons, William and James Shaw, in his will), for, and as a complete jointure, "all those three South Flatts, and Four Days' Mowings, and Ox Leys, together with the pasture grounds, and Nether Timble Lane down to the Tom Croft Head."

On the 17th of January, 1706 (old style), the same Henry Robinson made his will, by which he gave unto his nephew, Henry Robinson, second son of his brother, Edward Robinson, that part of Swinsty Hall called the New Hall, with certain buildings and lands therein specified. But should it happen that the said Henry Robinson shall die before attaining the age of twenty-one years, leaving no lawful issue, the estate bequeathed to him was to pass to Edward Robinson, the testator's brother, his heirs and assigns for ever. To his wife, Anne Robinson, he leaves £10. To his nephews, Richard and Samuel Longbotham, each of them 20s. To Richard and Jane Walls, children of his late sister, Edith Walls, each of them £5. To his niece, Jane, wife of Robert Ellis, £20; and to her sister, Mary Pullan, 20s. To James Whitley and Margaret Whitley, children of his sister Margaret, each of them £20; and to Anne Whitley, another daughter, £10. To William

Shaw, his wife's eldest son, £10. To James Shaw, another of his wife's sons, £5. To his niece, Mary, wife of Miles Staveley, gent., 20s. To his brother, John Robinson, one shilling, in full of all his claims. To his brother, Walter Robinson, one shilling, in full of all his claims. George Booth, of Nabbs, gent., appointed supervisor. Proved last day of July, 1707.

Amongst the family papers are the following *Memoranda*:—That on November the 16th, 1683, Henry Robinson, of Swinsty Hall, doth promise, grant, and agree to give unto Walter Robinson, his brother, after the decease of him, the said Henry Robinson, all those closes or parcels of ground hereafter mentioned, with all the privileges thereunto appertaining: The Great Wood and Great Wood Leese, and one close called The Stubbing—The said Walter Robinson to pay, where the said Henry Robinson shall think fit to appoint, the sum of fortie pounds of current money. In 1688, Walter Robinson, of Swinsty Hall, sold for the sum of £300, to Edmund Robinson, of Masham, certain closes of land in Little Timble. Nov. 7th, 1691, Walter Robinson and Margaret, his wife, declared the use of the lands in Little Timble.

The following *Memorandum* is from "Leaves and Lays of the Forest," by the Rev. Thomas Parkinson :

"In the year 1716, A.D., I, Stephen Parkinson, bought of Edward Robinson, of Swinsty, The Cragg House, being the 12th day of November; and on the 17th we did

article for it. The purchase is 600 pounds—200 to be paid at May Day, and 400 at Martinmass next. At the bargain meeting I spent 1 shilling; at the settling one shilling and sixpence; and I paid Mr. Robinson five shillings, and to Harper (the tenant under Robinson) 15 shillings. This purchase included the house variously designated Over and Upper Cragg House, and Cragg Hall, with about 30 acres of land adjoining. The house is of the time of Elizabeth, and had belonged in succession to the Franklands, the Rev. Henry Fairfax, and others."

Nov. 16th, 1719, Henry Robinson and his wife released to Edward Robinson, father of the said Henry Robinson, for the sum of four hundred and fourscore pounds, divers lands in Timble—Swinsty Hall not mentioned.

March 25th, 1725, Henry Robinson and his wife, of Swinsty Hall, convey to Edward Robinson, also of Swinsty Hall, for the consideration of £500, all that part, and so much of that capitall mansion commonly call the New Hall.

This Henry Robinson appears, from the Fewston register, to have been buried there May 14th, 1728.

At this time there were living in Swinsty, or Little Timble, three sons of Edward Robinson the elder, all heads of families—Walter, Henry and Edward. Walter, already mentioned, had three sons baptised at Fewston—William, July 30th, 1758; Walter, Oct. 19th, 1761, and Edward, June 16th, 1764.

Walter Robinson, of Swinsty, in Otley parish, yeoman, was buried at Fewston, October 21st, 1768.

Henry Robinson, who married, November 28th, 1740, Ann Smithson, of Gill Bottom, in Norwood, by whom he had seven sons and three daughters; the sons were John, bap. Sep. 10th, 1741, buried Nov. 13th in the same year; Edward, bap. Dec. 1st, 1744; Joseph, Feb. 23rd, 1746; Walter, April 22nd, 1749; James, June 16th, 1751 (died 1786, unmarried, buried at Fewston, July 20th); John, —, 1754; William, Aug. 15th, 1756; Jane, April 23rd, 1759; Elizabeth, Sep. 22nd, 1761; Sarah, Jany. 14th, 1764. Five of these sons are mentioned in the will of their uncle, Joseph Smithson, dated Sep. 21st, 1779; wherein he states that he was entituled to the reversion of a copyhold estate lying in the township of Timble Great, on the death of his sister, Ann Robinson. He thereby gave the same, after her death, together with an allotment of new enclosed common land, with all rights belonging thereto, unto his nephews, her sons, Edward Robinson, Walter Robinson, James Robinson, John Robinson, and William Robinson, equally, and their heirs, &c. Will proved Jan. 8th, 1788.

The other son was Edward, who, on December 26th, 1752, married at Fewston, Ann Laycock of the same parish, by whom he had a family of five sons, and three daughters. The sons were Edward, baptised at Fewston, October 5th, 1755; *Jonathan*, of whom more hereafter, bap. Jan. 3rd, 1758; Mary, bap.

Sep. 10th, 1763; Hannah, bap. Dec. 27th, 1766; *Henry*, bap. Oct. 9th, 1769; James, bap. Oct. 21st, 1772; William, bap. Nov. 6th, 1774; and Sarah, bap. Nov. 30th, 1776.

It is with the second son, Jonathan Robinson, that we are principally concerned. He married at Otley Church, October 15th, 1779, Sushannah Snell, of Swinsty Hall. Their children were Ann, bap. February 26th, 1780; *Betty*, bap. Nov. 24th, 1781; Frances, bap. August 19th, 1783; Joseph, bap. August 17th, 1785; and Edward, bap. May 14th, 1787.

Many anecdotes yet linger in the neighbourhood of the extraordinary athletic prowess of this Jonathan Robinson. The Robinsons were noted as a powerful, tall, and active race of men, more addicted to conviviality, and outdoor sports, than intellectual culture or pursuits; but this Jonathan appears to have excelled them all. He was upwards of six feet in height, strong in proportion, and of remarkable agility. He was of a genial and social disposition, and wherever a feast or public merry-making took place, he was sure to be in the midst of it. He excelled at most of the games and athletic exercises then practised. At high jump he surpassed all competitors, being able to clear a bar held as high as himself. He also excelled at the game of spell and knurr. At a match at this game, played on Fewston Bents, when David Spence, the village tailor, of Timble, was his partner, the game was in such a state that fourteen score were wanted to make them equal to their opponents. David was a safe

man for four score, and he took his rise and gained his quantity; when Jonathan exclaimed: "Weel worth thi' heart David, we hev' 'em!" Then Jonathan stepped forward, took his rise, and struck with such precision and power that the knur swum away clear for about eleven score, and dropping on the smithy roof at Fewston, bounded about three score further before it was spent. This feat will appear all the more remarkable, when it is stated that he used only one hand when striking with the bat. He is also reputed to have possessed considerable talent as a writer of songs, and poetical pieces on local subjects; but, unfortunately, none of his productions have been preserved. He resided at Tarn Hill House, near Swinsty Moor, and followed the business of a farmer and linen-weaver. He was buried at Fewston, March 2nd, 1825, aged 67.

The two sons of Jonathan Robinson, Joseph and Edward, on attaining manhood enlisted into the English army; and in the war between England and the United States of America, in 1812-13, served in Canada, took part in some of the fighting, and escaped unhurt. On the conclusion of peace, they returned to England, and obtained their discharge from the army. (Some of the old inhabitants used to speak of seeing the two smart young fellows in uniform at Swinsty.) They sailed for America again, when one of them died at sea; the other arrived in safety—married, and settled in Montreal, where he kept a livery stable.

Of the two daughters, Ann and Frances, we have no account. *Betty*, the second daughter, married at Fewston (under the name of *Elizabeth*), on the 15th of October, 1815, William Gill, then of Blubberhouses, but a native of Pateley Bridge. Their family consisted of five sons and two daughters:—

Edward, the eldest son, emigrated to America in 1850; engaged in the building trade, and died there in March, 1855, in the 39th year of his age.

Edwin, like all his brothers, was brought up to his father's calling, that of a mason. In 1841, along with his brother Edward, he worked at the building of the Royal Pump Room, Harrogate. They both also worked at the Houses of Parliament, Westminster, when in course of erection. Edwin also went to America—indeed, the four brothers were at one time all in America working as masons; but Edwin soon left, and went to Australia, where he spent thirteen years at the “gold diggings;” came back to England, stayed a short time, and again went to America, where he abode about five years, when he finally returned to England, and lived with his sister, Elizabeth Kendall, at High Snowden. After her death, he went to reside at Leeds with his other sister, Mrs. Mary Dearden, where his wanderings came to an end December 17th, 1887, at the age of 67. He was never married.

Nelson, the third son, also went to America, but soon returned home to England, and resided with his sister at Gill Beck, in Timble, where he died January 31st,

1854, aged 27 years. He was never married.

Jonathan died in infancy in 1820.

Robinson, the fifth and youngest son, was born December 17th, 1829. He was the founder of "The Robinson Free School and Library," at Great Timble; of which a full account is given in a subsequent part of this work, along with a biographical memoir from the pen of Dr. Robert Collyer, of New York.

Of the sisters, Elizabeth, born September 15th, 1816, married William Kendall, and lived on a farm at High Snowden. They had only one son, who died young. She died December 4th, 1880, aged 64.

Mary, the other sister, married John Dearden. They resided at Leeds, where she died February 5th, 1884, aged 60 years, and left one son surviving, Mr. J. E. Dearden, dealer in musical instruments, Leeds, the only one of the descendants of Betty Robinson and William Gill now living in England.

Henry Robinson, a younger brother of Jonathan, born in 1769, settled at "Blaeberry Croft," in the township of Rigton. He married Christiana, daughter of William Bradley, of Rigton, by whom he had a family of five sons and four daughters:—William, born January 7th, 1802; John, August 30th, 1805; Henry, September 20th, 1807; Thomas, May 25th, 1814; Joseph, September 15th, 1817; Mary, January 4th, 1800; Ann, October 20th, 1803; Christiana, May 10th, 1810 (died young); and Charlotte, May 19th, 1812. Henry Robinson, the father, died October 24th, 1843, and was buried at Kirkby Overblow.

William, the eldest son, married Sarah Myers, by whom he had one son, Joseph (now resident at Farsley, near Leeds), and three daughters. He purchased the Hole House Farm, in Pannal, where he resided many years, and died there May 7th, 1879; buried at Pannal.

Thomas resided chiefly with his brother William, and died unmarried May 27th, 1892.

John succeeded his father in possession of the farm at "Blaeberry Croft"; married and had a family of four sons and four daughters. He died in 1882, aged 77 years.

Henry resided at Rigton village; he married and had a family; one of his sons, named Isaac, yet resides at Rigton. Died February 28th, 1874, buried at Kirkby Overblow.

Joseph, the youngest son, settled at Bingley, where he died.

Another branch of the Robinson family settled at Blubberhouses; the head of which at this time was named Thomas, who on May 24th, 1779, married Frances Swain, by whom he had Michael, baptised Nov. 24th, 1781; Thomas, Jan. 9th, 1784, died an infant; John, Nov. 9th, 1785; another Thomas, Dec. 8th, 1787, and Joseph. Thomas Robinson, the father, died in 1824, his wife having died in 1814.

Dr. Robert Collyer thus spoke of Michael Robinson, on the opening of "The Robinson Library," at Timble, August 2nd, 1892:—"He was the son of Thomas Robinson, the blacksmith, whose smithy stood near the old toll gate; but he could not 'thoil' the hammer

and anvil, and took to his schooling to such good purpose, that when Colbeck & Co. wanted someone to bring the water from the westward to the new overshot wheel—a very delicate and difficult bit of work—‘that lad o’ Robinson’s’ took the contract, and did his work so well that the Company held on to him, as a man to tie to; and when Colbeck & Co. failed, and the property passed into the hands of the Craven Bank, in Skipton, the whole management of the factory and estate passed into his hands. He also was a man whose memoir would be well worth a place in this gallery, if there was one left who could tell the story; but the gravestone near the door in Fewston Churchyard, and, it may be, some memories among the elders of Salem Chapel, in Otley, where he ended his days, is the sum of what may be said now about a very remarkable man in his day.”

Appended are the inscriptions on the tombstone to the memory of Michael Robinson, his father, mother and brothers.

“Sacred to the memory of Michael Robinson, late of Otley, formerly of West House, yeoman, who died June the 25th, 1845, aged 64 years. Also, Ann Robinson, wife of the above named, who departed this life November 9th, 1852, aged 76 years.”

On the north side of the same stone is inscribed—“In memory of Frances and Thomas Robinson, of Blubberhouses, the parents of the above. Frances, died Jany. 28th, 1814, aged 68 years. Thomas, died Jany. 26th, 1824, aged 76 years.”

Three brothers of the said Michael are thus commemorated on the same tombstone.

“John Robinson, died Jany. 3rd, 1865, aged 79 years. Thomas Robinson, of High House, Fewston, died August 17th, 1866, aged 78 years. Also, Joseph Robinson, of Keighley, who died July 12th, 1862, aged 69 years.”

We return now to the Robinson resident in Swinsty Hall. Edward Robinson, of Swinsty, gent., being aged and infirm, made his will, by which he gave unto John Robinson, his grandson, when he should attain the age of twenty-one years, and to his heirs for ever, all that part of the capitall messuage called Swinsty Hall, known by the name of the New Hall, with the lands, &c., belonging thereto, then in the possession of his son, Edward Robinson, and Richard and Joseph Snell; upon condition that he should pay to Walter Robinson and James Robinson, his brethren, £100 each for a legacy, when they should respectively attain the age of twenty-one years. Buried March 3rd, 1734.

Edward Robinson, the son above mentioned, on March 6th, 1714, married Hannah Johnson, by whom he had Henry, bap. May 4th, 1715 (buried May 14th, 1728); Sarah, bap. June 28th, 1718 (buried Dec. 27th, 1724); *John*, bap. May 14th, 1720; Walter, bap. 22nd Feb., 1725; James and Sarah, twins, bap. Sep. 27th, 1731, and Hannah, bap. May 28th, 1735. Mr. Edward Robinson, of Swinsty Hall, buried June 27th, 1744.

John Robinson, who had the estate after his

grandfather's death, was born in 1720, and on February 19th, 1743, married Jane, daughter of Aaron Hardcastle, of Fewston, by whom he had issue—Mary, bap. March 23rd, 1744; Ann, Jany. 16th, 1747, and Edward, bap. Feb. 8th, 1749.

By his will, dated May 22nd, 1772, he gave unto his son, Edward Robinson, and his heirs, all his freehold lands and buildings, commonly known as Swinsty Hall, then in the occupation of himself and Thomas Rymer.* To his daughters, Mary Bramley and Ann Carr, he bequeathed £150 each. To his wife, Jane, the sum of £10 yearly during her natural life. And should his son Edward die without leaving issue, the estate was to be divided equally between his two daughters. The will was proved June 26th, 1772.

Edward Robinson mentioned above died three days before his father (buried June 2nd, 1772, his father was buried June 5th), consequently the estate was divided between his two sisters, Mary, wife of Robert Bramley, and Ann, wife of Samuel Carr.

On a tombstone in the Churchyard of Fewston is inscribed:—

“Here lieth the Body of John Robinson, of Swinsty Hall, who departed this life on the

* This Thomas Rymer is said by one of his descendants to have been a son, or brother, of Thomas Rymer, the antiquary and historiographer, compiler of “*Fœdera*,” &c. Thomas Rymer, while resident at Swinsty Hall, had two children baptised at Fewston—Richard, June 3rd, 1774; and Ann (or Nanny), Feb. 22nd, 1777; and Ann, his wife, was buried there May 9th, 1778. The lease from John Robinson to Thomas Rymer was dated Nov. 8th, 1771; and voided May 29th, 1778.

2nd day of June, *Anno Domini* 1772, in the 52nd year of his age. Also near this place lies the Body of Jane, wife of the above said John Robinson, and Daughter of Aaron Hardcastle, late of Fewston, who departed this life the 1st day of November, in the 64th year of her age, *Anno Domini* 1783."

On a metal plate fixed in the right hand corner of the above stone is inscribed:—

"Also here lieth interred, Mary, the wife of Robert Bramley, and Daughter of the above John and Jane Robinson, who departed this life the 9th day of December, 1810, aged 65 years.

"Go home, my friends, and shed no tears,
I must lie here while Christ appears;
When I arise I hope to have
A joyful rising from the grave."

On a tombstone, which appears to have been taken down at some time, and not refixed—the under parts lie scattered about near the north wall of the Churchyard, the top lies on the ground, face downwards—is the following inscription:—

"Here lieth the body of Edward, son of John and Jane Robinson, of Swinsty Hall, who departed this life the 30th day of May, *Anno Domini* 1772, in the 23rd year of his age.

"Here also lieth the body of Elizabeth, Daughter of John and Jane Robinson aforesaid, who departed this life the 6th day of October, *Anno Domini* 1769, in the 12th year of her age.

"Long time they bore afflictions sore,
Physicians were in vain;
Till God did please by death to ease
And set them free from pain."

The west wing of the antique mansion of Swinsty, commonly called "The Old Hall," with the lands thereunto belonging, after passing through the hands of Miles Staveley, two or three generations of the family of Snell, and divers others, was purchased in 1848 by the late John Bramley, from the executors of the late Stephen Parkinson, who thus obtained possession of three parts, out of the four into which the Swinsty Hall estate was at one time divided.

The other portion of the Swinsty Hall estate, after being some generations in possession of the family of Shann, of York, was purchased from Dr. Shann by Mr. Charles Holmes, of Little Timble, the present owner, October 12th, 1882. It yet retains what is called the "Hall Fold 'right' for swine, geese, and other poultry, to feed and be kept about the said hall and barnes at their free will and pleasure." The cow barn standing on the south side of the hall also belongs the Holmes estate. It is now a roofless ruin, and interior converted into a garden.

The family of Snell has long been resident in the neighbourhood of Fewston. In 1672, we find Richard Snell, Widdow Snell, and Ireton Snell, all heads of families, paying hearth tax. In the Fewston parish register, we find in 1638 Richard Snell, in 1650 Jeremie Snell. A century later Anthony Snell located in Swinsty Hall; whose children were John, bap. Feb. 14th, 1741, buried May 9th, 1742; Ann, bap. April 10th, 1743; Anthony, July 25th, 1746; Richard, April 14th, 1750.

Anthony Snell, of Swinsty Hall, yeoman, buried Nov. 8th, 1758.

At the same time Joseph Snell was also living in Swinsty Hall; his children were Thomas, bap. Dec. 29th, 1744; Frances, Dec. 31st, 1746; William, Sep. 8th, 1748; John, Dec. 1st, 1754; and Elizabeth, Oct. 23rd, 1756. Joseph Snell, of Swinsty Hall, yeoman, buried Sep. 9th, 1762.

Three families of the name of Snell, all married, at this time resided in their portion of the Old Hall at Swinsty—Thomas, Richard and William, and all had children; so the old mansion at that time would be a lively place.

The Family of Bramley, of Swinsty Hall.

The family of Bramley is of considerable antiquity in the Forest of Knaresborough; and, as it is a place name, they probably derived it from their residence at Bramley Head, in the township of Thruscross. In the poll tax roll for the year 1379, we find William de Bramley resident in *Villa de Timble*. The name occurs amongst the earliest in the Fewston parish register, and runs through it to the present time. In the hearth tax roll 1672, we find John Bramley dwelling in "Timble-cum-Fewston." In 1651, when a project was started among the principal inhabitants of the Forest to purchase the manorial rights thereof from the Crown, Marmaduke Bramley was selected as one of

the feoffees on the part of the purchasers. By the marriage of John Bramley, of Fewston, with Ann, daughter of Robert Parker, of East End House, Norwood, May 15th, 1743, that estate came into the hands of the family; for having no sons of his own, Robert Parker devised his estate to his grandson, Robert Bramley, whom he had brought up from the age of two years. Robert Bramley (baptised at Fewston April 7th, 1744) succeeded his grandfather in 1763, and married Mary, one of the daughters of Mr. John Robinson, of Swinsty Hall; by the provisions of whose will, he became possessed in right of his wife, in 1772, of one half of the New Hall and estate of Swinsty. He died in 1817, aged 72 years, and was succeeded by his only son.

John Bramley, born 1775, who married Ann, daughter of Thomas Simpson, of Felliscliffe, by whom he had one son, John, who succeeded him, and two daughters, Mary, married to James, youngest son of Benjamin Kent, of Tatefield Hall, near Harrogate, and Ellen, married to John Yeadon, of the Nunnery, Arthington. In November, 1834, John Bramley became possessed of the other half of Swinsty Hall estate, by the provisions of the will of Samuel Carr, who had married Ann Robinson, sister to his grandmother.

Samuel Carr was a member of a family long resident in the parish of Fewston, and may be cited as an instance of hale and hearty longevity. At the age of ninety he is said to have walked to Otley, a distance of six miles, to attend a wedding, and did not forget to

drink to the health of the happy couple. His wife died, without leaving issue, in 1823, and he died at East End House eleven years afterwards. They were buried at Fewston, and a headstone bears the following inscription to their memory—

“In Memory of Samuel Carr, of Swinsty Hall, who died November 25th, 1834, aged 92 years. Also of Ann, wife of the above named Samuel Carr, and daughter of John and Jane Robinson, of Swinsty Hall, who died May 5th, 1823, aged 75 years.”

John Bramley died in 1853, and was succeeded by his only son.

John Bramley, who married Mary, youngest daughter of Simeon Moorhouse, of Gill Bottom, Norwood, by whom he had issue—

Elizabeth, born 1839, married to William Hare Gill, of Felliscliffe—has issue.

Robert, born 1840, married to Mary Ripley, of Kirkhammerton.

Hannah, born 1843, married to Shadrach Burras, of Bradford.

John Moorhouse, born 1845, twin with Mary, the present owner of Swinsty Hall.

Mary, born 1845, married to George Aked Blackburn, of Halifax—has issue.

Robinson, born 1848, married Eliza Clarkson, of Darley—has issue.

Henry, born 1850, married Mary Emsley, of Haverah Park—has issue.

Sarah Ann, born 1851, married to John Yeadon, of the Nunnery, Arthington—has issue.

John Bramley died in 1889, and was buried

at Fewston, where a granite monument close to the east wall of the Churchyard, bears the following inscription—

“In Memory of John Bramley, of East End, Norwood. Born April 5th, 1817; died Nov. 16th, 1889.

“Also of Mary, wife of the above. Born June 6th, 1812; died May 9th, 1887.

“I know that my Redeemer liveth!”

Near to them rest their near relations, John and Hannah Moorhouse, who lived some years at Swinsty Hall. A monument to their memory bears the following inscription—

“Sacred to the Memory of John Moorhouse, of Swinsty Hall. Born Sept. 16th, 1804; died June 3rd, 1887.

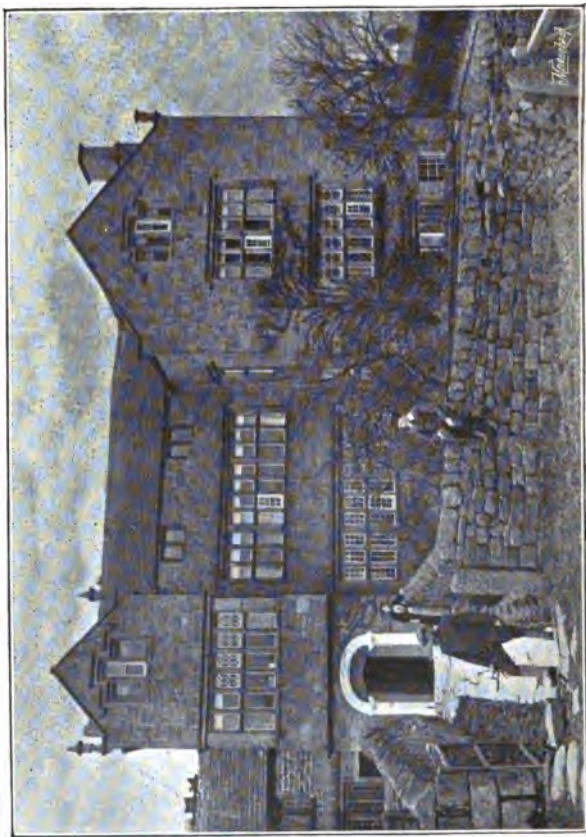
“Also of Hannah, sister of the above. Born Oct. 9th, 1807; died Dec. 2nd, 1879.

“The Memory of the just is blessed!”

John Bramley by his will devised Swinsty Hall, and the estate belonging thereto, to his second son, John Moorhouse Bramley, the present owner and occupier.

As Mr. John Moorhouse resided at Swinsty Hall during the last twenty years of his life, and died there, we give the following brief memoir taken chiefly from the *Otley Observer* newspaper:—One of the oldest and most respected residents of the district has passed away in the person of Mr. John Moorhouse, who died at his residence, Swinsty Hall, on Friday last, June 3rd [1887], at the ripe age of 82. Few men have marked their individuality upon the community in which they

have moved more honourably than Mr. Moorhouse. Early in life, through the death of his father, he came into possession of what in those days was a liberal fortune. Being fairly well educated, and possessing in an eminent degree the judicial mind, he naturally fell into the legal groove, and he became the adviser of the parish in all legal matters, and *will maker* general to a wide district round about ; and always without fee or reward. In positions of trust, public and private, his integrity was unimpeachable. Having an excellent memory, he was a store house of facts and anecdotes relative to the events and families of the neighbourhood ; and it was a pleasure to him to impart his knowledge to others. On this point we can speak from personal experience. Socially, he was an agreeable companion, always cheerful and light hearted ; endowed with a keen sense of the humorous, he was a capital story teller. He was also remarkable for his untiring industry. His home at Gill Bottom was a model of neatness and good order ; many of the buildings were indeed his own handiwork, for he had made himself master of the mason's craft ; and it was matter of deep regret to him when the Leeds Corporation took his cosy homestead and some of his land to form their Swinsty reservoir. During the negotiations for the sale of the same he conducted his own case, and did not seek the assistance of any professional valuer or arbitrator. He was never married ; the sister Hannah, above mentioned, resided with him until the time of her death.



SWINSTY HALL, SOUTH FRONT.

Swinsty Hall.

No description can do full justice to this "old-fashioned quaint abode." The artist might represent its hard outlines, but there is a kind of awe-inspiring influence hovering around places of this kind which can only be felt. It seems as if the genius of their former greatness was yet enshrined within their walls, and compelled us to venerate the place of its abode.

The front of the hall is simple, yet elegant, consisting of a centre and projecting wings, the latter like square towers, finished with gables and pinnacles at the angles and apex. The many windows, with their numerous lights, relieve its massive character, and give it an air of grace and lightness. On the north side, or back, the centre projects and the sides recede. The stone and masonry are alike of good quality; the foundations have been firm and sure, for the walls are straight, upright, and free from cracks and flaws as they were on the day when finished. There is no quarry on the Swinsty side of the Washburn, whence the stone could be obtained. The tradition is that it was brought from the opposite side of the valley, between the river and Scough Hall, on the backs of pack horses, and the probability is that it was so, as no indications of a carriage road can be traced across the Washburn.

The principal entrance in the south front is by a doorway in the western wing, the sides of which are moulded, and the soffit of the circular arch at the head is ornamented with

three roses ; the projecting portion forming a spacious porch, an ornamental and useful feature in many old buildings. Immediately within the entrance is a room now used as a kitchen, formerly in two, one of them being a lodging room. On the right is the great hall, a spacious room twenty-one feet square. The beams supporting the upper floors throughout the building are splendid specimens of oak timber, resting on corbels springing from the walls. The floor of this room has been originally laid with lozenge-shaped flagstones, some portions of which yet remain near the walls. The window occupies the greatest part of the south side, and is divided into twenty lights ; the glass is partly new, partly old of the original glazing, the latter chiefly in small octagonal panes, some of it coloured, on one of which is painted the date, 1627. The fireplace has been modernized, but the original opening may yet be seen, about fifteen feet wide. On the eastern side of this room is a short stair of only four or five steps, with a landing above enclosed with a balustrade of finely turned oak, finished with a cornice beautifully panelled and carved. A door leads from this into the drawing-room, or dining-room ; the handle of the latch opening this door is plated with silver, the only one of its kind yet remaining, though many others are said to have been at one time similarly adorned. The doors are all made of oak, without nails ; the battens ; four in number, being fixed by wooden pins, with the heads projecting a little by way of ornament on the

inner side, the two middle ones with three rows, and the top and bottom with only one each. This room is wainscotted with panelled oak, finely carved at the upper border and around the fireplace. On the left of the fireplace is a small room 5 feet 6 inches by 4 feet, and 11 feet in height. The entrance cannot be seen without very careful examination. The floor is of oak planks, black and bright, and smooth as a sheet of glass. The window is of twelve lights, the upper six of which yet retain their antique glazing, being variegated with stained glass; on one piece are the letters H.R.G. and the date 1627, the initials of Henry Robinson, the first owner of Swinsty of that name, and his wife. In this room is preserved a piece of the original furniture—a dining table, 17 feet 6 inches in length, by 3 feet in breadth, and the same in height, made of planks of solid oak, two inches thick, with massive frame and legs of the same material. This table has doubtless played its part in many a hundred feasts, and it is yet as strong, and clean, and bright, as when the wealthy owner of Swinsty, in the day of its highest greatness, sat at its head and dispensed hospitality. The forms, or benches, on which the feasters have been perched also yet remain; they are of such height that those seated on them would have to rest their feet on the lower frame, as they could not reach the ground. With the exception of the fireplace, which has been modernized, this room is in its original state.

The central staircase is of solid stone, five

feet wide, ascending in short square flights. In the second storey two large rooms, divided by an oak partition, come to the front; over the door in the centre of this partition are the letters and date I.R.I.R., 1639, being the initials of John Robinson, of Swinsty, the second owner, of that family. The central window lighting this storey is of twenty lights. In one of these rooms is a large oak table, of nearly the same dimensions as the one previously mentioned in the dining room. The windows in the uppermost storey are all walled up, and the floors were re-laid by the present owner about the year 1874. The roof is of oak, a piece of strong, simple, and elegant carpentry; the rafters form semi-circles; the whole has been planed, moulded, and most carefully finished. These rooms and the staircase show the naked stone work, being devoid of white-wash or plaster. There are a few antique pieces of furniture in other portions of the hall: as a massive bedstead of oak, with carved head and tester, also an oaken wardrobe of considerable age. The most interesting portion of the building is that occupied by Mr. John Moorhouse Bramley, the owner. The traditional idea in the neighbourhood is that when the hall was built the daily pay of a workman was a penny, or its equivalent, a peck of corn.

The buildings of the old and new hall have furnished habitations for four farmers, and grouped around are the farm buildings of the four establishments. The barn, so often mentioned, is a very large, thatched building,

supported by crocks, or large curved oaken beams, of enormous length and strength, placed angle wise, reaching from the ground to the ridge, and which were always erected before the side walls of the building. We can see in it fairly realised, our idea of the rude, gloomy, yet grand Saxon Mynster, and in the massive beams which upheld its thatch the prototype of pointed architecture. The crocks above mentioned have been cut out of large oak trees, and of a peculiar growth for their purpose; one set is 19 inches in diameter and 26 feet in height; another set is 23 inches in diameter and of a similar height. Numbers of swallows build their nests on the rafters unmolested, coming and going at their own sweet will.

Between the hall and the river Washburn was formerly a large patch of woodland, where a colony of rooks made their abode. The oaken beams in the hall and barn tell us plainly what the timber of Swinsty was in former days, and there were two splendid oaks growing in that wood which proved that the soil had not degenerated in the production of fine timber. The late John Bramley was once offered £50 for one of them, which he refused. The trees, being very tall, did not exclude the air and sunshine, and the ground beneath them in the early summer months was a perfect paradise of wild flowers—

“Where boon nature scattered free and wild
Of mountain glen each favourite child.”

Now all is changed, wood and flowers are all submerged deep beneath the waters of the

Swinsty reservoir. In front of the hall is a garden of nearly coeval age, in which are preserved the remains of three querns, or ancient domestic hand mills. One of them is complete, comprising both upper and lower stones, the upper is 12 inches and the lower stone $15\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter. They are formed of the hard gritstone found in the neighbourhood. Of a very small one, which has been much used, only the upper stone remains. The other has never been completed. In the garden, a few old-fashioned plants remain, such as the Robinsons cultivated when they dwelt here; roses red and white, aconite, rosemary, balm, lavender, peony, box, and golden rod; while the wall is partially hidden by the green and golden masses of stone crop, and the walls of the old mansion are coated over with grey and golden lichen.

Nether Timble.

The farm called Nether Timble also belonged to the Robinsons of Swinsty Hall, and was sold to the Cunliffe family about 1794. The rows of fine sycamore trees by the sides of the fields, which form at once an ornament and a shelter, were planted by the Robinsons. Some very large trees of this kind were felled here in 1840. Another farm adjoining, called Bride Cross House, was purchased by the Cunliffes from Fawkes, of Farnley, about 1820; and Tarn Hill was also obtained by

them about 1850, so that they now are owners of the greater part of the township of Little Timble. These purchases would be made by John Cunliffe and Ellis Cunliffe Lister, Esq., eldest son of John Cunliffe, of Addingham, who assumed the name of Lister on coming into the Manningham estates, and afterwards the additional surname of Kaye, on the death of his father-in-law in 1841. He represented Bradford in three successive Parliaments, and on his decease, November 24th, 1853, was succeeded by the present owner.

A portion of the rent (twenty-two shillings and two pence) payable by Henry Robinson, first owner of Swinsty of that name, to the Archbishops of York as superior lords, is yet paid to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners in the following proportions :—

	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
Charles Holmes.....	8	8
John M. Bramley	4	0
George Demain	4	4
Joseph Wickson.....	0	6

Whether the Leeds Corporation pay the balance for the land they got in the township we know not. The “knight’s service” has been dispensed with.

Swinsty Moor.

This is a tract of land upwards of 100 acres in extent, yet in a state of nature; the soil is generally of good quality, and the work of cultivation would be comparatively easy, as it is generally dry, and is not encumbered with

masses of stone or thickets of underwood, the vegetation being chiefly coarse bent grasses—very little heath or ling—a few patches of gorse and bracken occur at intervals. In a hollow of this moorland is situate

Swinsty Tarn,

A pond of variable size, according as the season is a dry or wet one, but generally nearly an acre in extent. The only visible source of supply is a small runnel from near Tarn Hill House on the south, while the overflow is discharged by an open ditch on the north. The most interesting feature about this tarn is in the summer season, when two green islands appear as if floating on its surface; they are of an oval shape, about 20 yards in length by 12 or 13 yards in breadth. The more southerly one is composed of a thick set mass of *menyanthes trifoliata*, or Buckbean, lifting its bright green leaves a foot or upwards above the surface of the water. The other island has only a fringe of Buckbean, the interior being composed of rushes or aquatic grasses. The fishified inhabitants of the tarn are eels and horse leeches.

Swinsty Moor is common of pasture to all the occupiers of land in Little Timble, and, as it is unstinted, the occupier of one acre of land can turn as many cattle and sheep upon it as the occupier of 100 acres. The Leeds Corporation renounced right of common pertaining to the lands they purchased in Little Timble for the formation of their reservoirs.

Ancient British Celts.

The following appeared in the *Wharfedale and Airedale Observer* of December 14th, 1888, and the celt was found three days before:—
“Antiquarians will be interested to know that Mr. William Storey, who succeeded the late Mr. Bowers in the management of the Leeds Corporation Waterworks, recently found near the weir of the Fewston reservoir a fine specimen of the ancient British celt, or cutting adze. The specimen is $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches long, 3 inches wide at the edge, and weighs exactly 12 ounces.”

In the spring of 1894, was found by John Steele, of Norwood, a workman employed by the Leeds Corporation, while clearing some land near Scough Hall, a beautiful greenstone celt, finely polished and in excellent preservation. The length about five inches, and the cutting edge two-and-a-half inches, which, after lying in the ground for countless centuries, was sharp enough to cut the skin and flesh of an animal. Unfortunately the finder, not knowing what it was, broke it into two pieces, and the upper end is lost, the other portion is in possession of Mr. Storey, the Waterworks, Fewston.

Newhall.

“Many a humble tenement wherein
Great minds have wrought their task, and many a grave
Inheriting their dust, shall be transferred
To fanes and altars, where the world shall worship.”

Newhall *was* (for we must now speak of it as a thing of the past) situate in the valley of the Washburn, on a site now submerged under the Swinsty reservoir, immediately below and to the south of the village of Fewston. The house, which was demolished in 1876, presented only a humble appearance, and was of a square form, two storeys in height, two rooms in length, and the same in breadth, the roof covered with thick grey slate; the back towards the brook 'Washburn on the north, and the front towards the steep rise of the hill on the south. The windows were some of them of the same age as the building, some of them modern insertions; the older ones consisted of narrow lights divided by thick stone mullions. Some of the original glass remained up to the purchase of the estate by the Leeds Corporation; one piece was stained and bore the representation of a Pelican wounding her breast with her own bill, while three young ones below were looking up to her for their expected food. The birds were tinted *or*, standing upon a helmet in profile *gules*. This had formed the crest of the arms; the shield below was partially destroyed. This, we believe, was part of the armorial bearing of the family of Pulleyn, owners of Newhall before it came into possession of that of Fairfax. Of their first possession we have

no information ; our first knowledge of their ownership is when " George Pulleyn, of Newhall, near Fewston, in the countie of Yorke," made his will, dated June 5th, 1557, by which he bequeathed to his brother, " Sir John Pulleyn, vycar of Fuston, my lease of the Newhall, and of other lands which I have of the grant of Mayster William Pulleyn." This Sir John Pulleyn was Vicar of Fewston from 1545 to 1583. Twenty years afterwards the estate passed from the family of Pulleyn to that of Fairfax, as is evident from the " Feet of fines," Michaelmas Term, 39th and 40th Elizabeth, A.D. 1593. Thomas Fairfax, knight, and Edward Fairfax, gent., plaintiffs—John Pulleyn, Esq., and Mary, his wife, Samuel Pulleyn, gent., and Daniel Pulleyn, gent., deforciantsof two messuages, with lands, in Fuiston and Little Tymble, als Nether Tymble, and a third part of 400 acres of pasture in Little Tymble.

Edward Fairfax, of Newhall.

Newhall is chiefly distinguished as the residence of Edward Fairfax, the poet. In the will of his father, Sir Thomas Fairfax, of Denton, knight, dated 13th January, 1599, Newhall is further confirmed to his son Edward, in the following words :—" I do give and bequeath to Edward Fairfax all that capitall messuage called New Hall, and all lands, tenements, meadows, and pastures, with the appurtenances, lying and being

within the parishes of Otley and Fuiston, in the Countie of Yorke, to the same New Hall belonging. To have and to hold the said capytall messuage, and all other the same premisses, with the appurtenances, to the said Edward Fairfax, and the heires of his bodie lawfully to be begotten. Remainder to my sonne Sir Thomas Fayrfax, knight, and his heires for ever." And further, "I do give unto the said Edward Farfax the sum of one hundreth and fiftie pounds." In his marriage licence, A.D. 1600, he is described as "Fairfax, Edward, gent., of Newhall, parish of Otley, to Laycock, Dorothy, of Leeds—at Leeds."

In his early married life Fairfax resided at Leeds, and there almost certainly two of his sons, Thomas (baptised at Leeds, September 3rd, 1601) and William (baptised at Otley, September 2nd, 1603) were born, as we find no traces of them in the Fewston register; and from that source we derive our first direct evidence of his residence here.

"1605. Ellen, daughter of Edward Fairfax, gent., was baptized the xij. day of May."

"1606. Elizabeth, daughter of Edw. Fairfax, Esq., was baptized the 8th of October."

"1621. Anne, daughter of Edw. Fairfax, Esq., was baptized the 12th of June."

She died the same year, as was believed, through the influence of witchcraft.

"1621. Edward Fairfax, Esq., a child named Anne, buried the 9th of October."

"Mrs. Dorotheie Fairfax was buried the 24th day of Jan., 1648."

Such is the evidence of the residence of

Edward Fairfax at Newhall, contained in the Fewston parish register. Of the cause of his removal to this lonely place we know nothing. If chosen as a place of retirement from the turmoil and bustle of the great world, as a kind of hermitage, it was most choice and select. Just such a place as a man weary of the world would choose in which to hide himself from false friends and furious enemies.

While residing at Newhall, a very singular, and at this day almost incredible, series of incidents took place in the family of Fairfax ; that is, the affliction of his children by the agency of witchcraft, so much so that the youngest one, Anne, an infant, died, and the two elder daughters, Ellen and Elizabeth, were most grievously afflicted during the years 1621 and part of 1622. The supposed witches were tried at the Yorkshire Assizes and acquitted. Fairfax wrote an account of all these strange occurrences, under the title of "*Dæmonologia : A Discourse on Witchcraft, as it was acted in the family of Mr. Edward Fairfax, of Fuyston, in the county of York, in the year 1621,*" of which an edition has been recently published, so that it is easy of access, and can be read in its entirety, and therefore, needs no further mention here. The result of the trial at York did not shake the faith of Fairfax in witchcraft ; it was always an article of his belief. Well might Collins afterwards style him :—

"Prevailing poet ! Whose undoubting mind
Believed the magic wonders which he sung."

At the same time we must not forget that

the seventeenth century was "the golden age" of superstition in England; the faith in witchcraft was all prevailing, and to doubt its reality was little less than atheism; so, in this instance, Fairfax only yielded to the spirit of his age, and bowed to the wisdom of his ancestors. It would have been more satisfactory to have seen the poet in advance of his age, than thus coinciding in its most revolting characteristic. Of himself he says: "I am in religion neither a fantastic Puritan nor superstitious Papist, but so settled in conscience that I have the sure ground of God's Word to warrant all I believe, and the commendable ordinances of our English Church to approve all I practice; in which course I live a faithful Christian, and obedient subject, and so teach my family."

His fame as a poet rests principally on his translation of Tasso's "Jerusalem Delivered," which was the work of his youth, as it was completed and published in the year of his marriage, 1600, under the title of "Godfrey of Bulloigne," with a dedication in verse to Queen Elizabeth, in which he deals largely in flattery. We give it as a specimen.

TO HER MAJESTY.

Wit's richest triumph, wisdom's glory,
Art's chronicle, learnings' story,
Tower of goodness, virtue, beauty;
Forgive me that presume to lay
My labours in your clear eye's ray;
This boldness springs from faith, zeal, duty.

Her hand, her lap, her vesture's hem,
Muse touch not, for polluting them;
All that is hers is pure, clean, holy;

Before her footstool humbly lie,
 So may she bless thee with her eye,
 The sun shines not on good things solely.

Olive of peace, angel of pleasure,
 What line of praise can your worth measure ?
 Calm seas of bliss which no shore boundeth ;
 Fame fills no more the world with lies,
 But busied in your histories
 Her trumpet those true wonders soundeth.

O, Fame ! Say all the good thou may'st,
 Too little is that all thou say'st ;
 What if herself, herself commended ?
 Should we then know, ne'er known before,
 Whether her wit or worth were more ?
 Ah, no ! That book would ne'er be ended.

Your Majesty's humble subject,

EDWARD FAIRFAX.

This translation of Tasso has been praised by nearly all critics. Dodsworth, the antiquary, speaking of Fairfax, says : " He translated Godfrey of Bullan out of Italian into English verse ; writ the history of Edward, the Black Prince, and certain other witty eclogues, as yet not printed that I hear of. He is accounted a singular scholar, and yet liveth, 1631." Besides his version of the " Jerusalem Delivered," he wrote a metrical " History of Edward, the Black Prince," which unfortunately perished in an accidental fire. " The Eclogues " were believed also to have perished by fire, but were partly recovered by his son William, and two of them are now known and have been recently published along with his " Dæmonologia." We give the opening lines of each, which may be said to describe the scenery of the valley of the Washburn.

“ Whilst on the rough and heath strewed wilderness
His tender flocks the rasps and brambles cropp,
Poor shepherd Eglon, full of sad distress,
By the small stream sat on a mole hill topp.”

The other begins in the same rural manner, but at a different season of the year.

“ The sweaty sithe-man, with his razor keen,
Shore the perfumed beard from meadows green,
And on each bush and every mossy stone
Jarrèd Maie's little daughter Tettrigone.”

Fairfax continued to reside at Newhall until his death, in 1635, and is said to have been buried in Fewston Church ; but, unfortunately, at that time the register is deficient, and so we have not the means of testing the assertion ; and if any monument was erected in the Church to his memory, it would be destroyed in the disastrous fire by which the Church was consumed in 1696. Dorothy Fairfax, the poet's widow, continued to reside here until her death, in 1648. Her nuncupative will is made here on January 18th, in the above year, in which she is described as “ Dorothe Ffairfax, of Newhall, in the Countie of Yorke, gentlwoman.” “ First her will and mind was that the moneys due unto her should be divided into three parts, whereof shee did give her daughter, Ellen Yeats, one thirde parte, another thirde parte shee did give to Mary Scarborough, her daughter, wife of Lawrence Scarborough, and the other thirde parte shee did give to Dorothe Richardson, her granddaughter, daughter of Phillip Richardson ; and, further, her will and minde was that the sayd thirde parte given to Dorothe Richardson should be payd to the

said Ellen Yeats, and remain in her hands for the childe's use." The witnesses are "Ellin Yeates," who signs with a X, and Mary Skarbouck. No mention is made of any of the four sons in their mother's will, and she only deals with her personal estate. Could the will of Edward Fairfax be found, we should probably learn the reason why the sons were omitted in their mother's will.

We have no evidence to show that any of the family of Fairfax resided at Newhall after their mother's death; the probability is that it reverted back to the great Fairfax estate of Denton. Ellen, or Helen, the heroine of the "Dæmonologia," and also of Mrs. Hibbert Ware's "Fairfax of Fuyston: or, A Practice Confess'd" (3 vols., London, 1890), survived her husband and was buried at Fewston, with the following brief record in the parish register:—

"1658. July, Widdow Yeates was buried the 30th day."

The graves of the others were probably "scattered far and wide by mountain, stream, and sea."

In the year 1860, when pulling down a wall while the house was undergoing some repairs, a gold ring or hoop was found (now in the possession of Mr. Bramley B. Kent, of Tatefield Hall, near Harrogate)—plain, broad and massive, in the inner circle of which was engraved in script hand the motto—" *After conscent ever content.*" Whether it had belonged to a Pulleyn or a Fairfax, we know not, probably the latter. This ring and motto seem to

tell a tale of one of the most interesting events in human life, of the—

“ Betrothed bride,
She who would rather die with *him*
Than live to gain the world beside.”

We gain very few and slight glimpses of Newhall after its abandonment by the family of Edward Fairfax. The next occupant was named Baildon, as we find in the Fewston register the following entry:—“ 1651. Peter Baildon, of Newhall, bur. 1st Nov.” In 1672 Mr. James Sikes* occupied a house in Little Timble with five hearths or chimneys, as we learn from the Hearth Tax roll of that year, and this could only be Newhall, as Mr. John Robinson was then resident at Swinsty Hall, which had eight hearths. There were six other dwellings in Timble, but they had only one hearth each. We believe that these occupiers of Newhall were only tenants of the Lords Fairfax.

“ May 18th, 1716, Lord Fairfax, of Denton, sold his estate at Denton, Askwith, &c., to Mr. James Ibbotson, of Leeds. On the same day all the tenants set their hands to a paper, and paid sixpence to Mr. James Ibbotson, of Leeds.”—*Parkinson's Leaves and Lays*, p. 189.

Newhall continued part of the possessions of this family until Mr. John Bramley pur-

* This family has left but faint traces of its existence in this neighbourhood. In 1617, Elizabeth, daughter of Peter Sykes, was baptised. 1620, Ann, daughter of Peter Sykes, bap. 20th April. 1656, Susan, daughter of Mr. James Sykes, bap. 14th August. 1659, William Sykes was godfather to William, son of Thomas Bentley, April 3rd. 1660, William Sikes buried 17th May.

chased it from the trustees of Sir Charles Henry Ibbotson, Bart., on June 2nd, 1851, who presented it to his youngest daughter Mary, wife of James Kent, youngest son of Benjamin and Dinah Kent, of Tatefield Hall, near Harrogate. The deed conveying the same was made in her name, and she held it until 1867, when it was purchased by the Leeds Corporation, who cleared away the house and all the buildings, and submerged the land beneath their Swinsty reservoir.

The Swinsty Reservoir.

Work on this reservoir was commenced in February, 1871, for the purpose of supplying water to the City of Leeds, and finished in January, 1887. It has a water surface of 156 acres, and a storage capacity of upwards of 1,000 million gallons. The drainage area is 17,254 acres. The depth of water, when full, is 60 feet. The embankment, which crosses the Washburn Valley a short distance below Swinsty Hall, is 500 yards in length, its breadth at the base 500 feet, and at the summit 24 feet. The puddle-wall, forming the heart of the embankment, is 24 feet thick at the bottom, and 8 feet thick at the top. The bywash is of solid masonry 1,300 feet in length, and in order to break the rush of the overflow water, the lower part of the incline is formed in small steps. It is a grand sight when a full stream is seen flowing down this bywash. Over the bywash is a handsome bridge of three arches, in order to form a

carriage way across the embankment, leading to Swinsty Hall and the western side of the reservoir. A caretaker's house is situate at the eastern end of the embankment. The water is conveyed to Leeds in two 30in. pipes, a distance of 16 miles by the pipe-track, but only about 13 miles as the crow flies. The total cost of this magnificent work was £162,707. It is only one of three similar reservoirs belonging to the Leeds Corporation in the Washburn valley.

Little Timble in the Directories.

Local historians appear not to have thought it worth the trouble, until a recent period, to explore the valley of the Washburn, or to even mention the names of Swinsty, Newhall, or Timble. Even the residence of such a distinguished personage as Edward Fairfax failed to attract them to the spot where he lived and died. Mounsey, who wrote a "History of Wharfedale" in 1813, states, when speaking of the old hall at Newhall-with-Clifton, near Otley, that "A turetted fabric in the village was once the residence of Edward Fairfax, Esq., the renowned translator of Tasso, the Italian poet." The same error is repeated in Allan's "History of Yorkshire," Hargrove's "History of Knaresborough," and Baines' "Directory of Yorkshire." Thomas Shaw, who published his "History of Wharfedale," in 1830, says, when speaking of the same place—"Several writers have erroneously stated that Edward Fairfax, the poet, lived

here; but his residence was Newhall in the parish of Fewston, and he was buried at Fewston Church," p. 139.

Edward Baines, in his "History, Directory and Gazetteer of the County of York," 1822, was the first writer who described LITTLE TIMBLE, which he did in the briefest possible manner:—Timble (Little), in the parish of Otley, wap. of Claro, liberty of Cawood, Wistow and Otley; $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles N. of Otley; pop. 62.

FARMERS:

Bramley, John. Dickinson, John, junr.

Dickinson, John. Stubbs, Thomas.

Ward, John.

Langdale's "Topographical Dictionary of Yorkshire," 1822, gives a few more particulars as to locality:—TIMBLE LITTLE, in the parish of Otley, upper division of Claro, liberty of Cawood, Wistow and Otley; $4\frac{3}{4}$ miles from Otley, $13\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Knaresborough, 14 miles from Skipton; pop. 62.

William White, in his "History, Gazetteer and Directory of the West Riding of Yorkshire," 1838, is equally short and unsatisfactory, he merely says:—LITTLE TIMBLE Township, in the vale of Washburn rivulet, 6 miles N. of Otley, has only 56 inhabitants, and 420 acres of land, mostly the property of E. C. Lister, Esq. The farmers are John Bramley, Chas. Dickinson, Joseph Scott, Thomas Stubbs,* and John Ward.

* In 1838-40, the valley of the Washburn was ravaged by typhus fever, which is said to have originated at Blubberhouses, and spreading from thence extending over the whole neighbour-

Kelly's "Directory of the West Riding," 1861, is little better than its predecessors:—TIMBLE LITTLE is a small township, 6 miles north from Otley, in the vale of Washburn. The population in 1851 was 60, and the acreage is 420. The Duke of Devonshire is Lord of the Manor; the land is chiefly pasture.

Bramley, William, farmer;
 Broadbent, William, farmer;
 Dickinson, Charles, farmer;
 Hanam, Humphrey, farmer;
 Holmes, John, farmer;
 Houseman, Joseph, farmer;
 Phillips, John, farmer;
 Stubbs, Thomas, farmer.

Letters through Otley.

hood, visiting nearly every house, and striking down some of its inmates; many died, among which were three children of Thomas Stubbs, of Newhall—Elizabeth, aged 16, March 5th; Ann, aged 12, March 10th; and Robert, aged 14, March 24th. On a headstone in the Churchyard may be seen inscribed the death of three children of William and Elizabeth Scaife, of West End, as follows:—John, died April 10th, 1840, aged 2 years; Hannah, died April 11th, 1840, aged 9 years; Christiana Eliza, died April 16th, 1840, aged 6 years. A metal plate inserted in the face of an upright headstone bears the following inscription:—

"Friendship, Love, and Truth.

Near this place is interred the remains of Edward Owen, of West House, flax dresser, who departed this life June 20th, 1840, aged 45 years. This stone was erected by the voluntary subscriptions of the inhabitants of this vicinity, as a token of respect and esteem for the zeal and disinterestedness with which he gave his valuable services in cases of sickness and distress, and to deplore his loss, which will be long and severely felt."

This visitation of fever was perhaps the saddest episode in the history of the Washburn valley, and so may it ever continue to be. Edward Owen did not die of the fever, but of a

Population, Statistics, &c.

Population in 1801, 59; in 1811, 55; in 1821, 62; in 1831, 56; in 1841, enumerated along with Timble Great; in 1851, 60; in 1861, inhabited houses 9, males 28, females 21, total 49; in 1871, inhabited houses 9, males 41, females 22, total 63; in 1881, inhabited houses 7, males 16, females 15, total 31. This diminution in the population is owing to the completion of the Leeds Corporation Waterworks. In 1891, inhabited houses 5, males 10, females 9, total 19.

Valuation to the County Rate, 1849, £545.

Valuation to Property Tax, 1858, £624.

Valuation to the Poor Rate, 1857, £323.

Valuation to the County Rate, 1881, £2,129.

The great rise in the last valuation was due to the waterworks of the Leeds Corporation.

The quantity of land taken from the township of Little Timble for the formation of the aforesaid waterworks was 125a. 1r. 21p.; the present ratable value of which is £2,478 7s. od.

The number of Parliamentary and County electors in Little Timble is 5.

lingering consumption. He is still remembered by old people as a person possessed of considerable medical knowledge, and no doubt did good service during the fever epidemic. He was also famous as a musician. He was instructor of a local band of music, of which several Timble men were members, one of whom is yet living. He was famous as a bass singer, and was selected to sing at Musical Festivals in York Minster.

Great Timble.



REAT Timble is pleasantly situated on an eminence overlooking the country around, north, east, and southward to a considerable extent. The northern prospect extends over the hills, slopes, and undulations of Fewston, Blubberhouses, and Thruscross, to the high grounds of Lord's Seat, Little Simon's Seat, Poxstones, Greenhow Hill, the ridge of Great Whernside, and the rugged rock crowned heights of Brimham; the eastern extends over the Forest of Knaresborough, across the great vale of York to the far away Hambleton Hills; the southern extends over the slopes of Snowden, the lower portions of the valley of the Washburn, the woods of Lindley and Farnley, the slopes of Bramhope and Eccup, and the dense groves of Harewood Park. Westward the prospect is limited by the long brown back of Blubberhouses Moor.

The houses are ranged irregularly along the sides of two roads, which converge into each other at the head of the village, and comprises half-a-dozen farm-houses, a Wesleyan Methodist Chapel, the Free Library, a public house, and a series of smaller dwellings or cottages. The Post Office is an iron box fixed in a wall. The only signs of government visible are the signs of the Registrar of

Births and Deaths, and that of a West Riding police constable. The buildings are all of stone and nearly all covered with slate. Previous to the terrific gale of January 7th, 1839, they were nearly all thatched, but that tornado stripped them of their ancient covering, and roofs of slate have since been substituted. Most of the dwellings have small gardens attached to them, in which flowers and vegetables are raised. Some of the houses are surrounded by groves of tall sycamores, so that when seen from a distance it resembles a grove of trees more than a village.

Though of undoubted antiquity, we have few traces of the village or its inhabitants in pre-historic times, yet from its proximity to the Roman road it could not be unknown to that people.

The Roman Road.

Though Timble does not present any traces of Roman occupation, and no relics of that people, so far as we know, have been turned up by the plough or spade within its limits, yet we give a short account of the road made by that people from Olicana (Ilkley) to Isurium (Aldborough). Whitaker, the historian, of Manchester, about the year 1765, thus mentions it:—"The road to Aldborough is found on Middleton and Blubberhouses Moors, being paved with stones uncommonly large, and edged with still larger." A fuller and better account is given in "Ilkley, Ancient and Modern," p. 12. "The finest remains still in

existence are those of the road to Aldborough over Middleton and Blubberhouses Moors; and these are well worth a summer day's exploration. The road, after leaving the moors, may still be traced through a meadow south of the Manor House, in Blubberhouses, by the finer tint of the grass, which lies like a ribbon on the land; from thence it crosses the hungry looking pastures on the east of the road to Otley, and over the Washburn to Cragg Hall, where it takes the hill through a small plantation; then turning to the right, neighbours with the turnpike on the way to Knaresborough."

This road proceeds in a nearly straight line across the country from Ilkley to Gaukhall, where it enters the Forest of Knaresborough, where it bends at a rather sharp angle to the right, and thence proceeds in another straight length across Blubberhouses Moor and the river Washburn to near "Watling Street House," which stands upon it; when it bends eastward, when another long straight line carries it onward through Felliscliffe, Hampsthwaite, Ripley, and finally to Aldborough.

Watling Street appears to be a common appellation for Roman Roads, though not given to them by their makers; and this road has borne that name for many generations. In a survey of the Forest of Knaresborough in 1613, the name occurs twice as a line of distinction, and by that name it is known at present. From Watling Street House to Ilkley no modern public road runs along it; up the slopes of the valleys, over the moorland

hills, and down the slopes again, it pursues its lonely way in solitude and silence. On Blubberhouses Moor a cart-track occupies the ancient stratum for about a mile, which is only used by the farmers when carting peat and turf from the moor. The road here is not paved with large stones edged with still larger, but composed of broken stones or rough gravel, with a raised centre to allow the escape of water to the sides, similar to our best modern roads, about ten feet in width and a foot in thickness. On ploughing up some old pasture land on the Manor House Farm for the first time, great difficulty was found in ploughing over the road, although the grass had been growing upon it for a thousand years. This ancient road runs along outside the north-western boundary of Great Timble from end to end, but never touches it, although at two places, Gawkhall Gate and Eagles Stones, it comes within three hundred yards of it. The track of this road by way of Middleton and across Blubberhouses Moor is laid down on the six inch Ordnance Survey sheet 169.

The first record of the existence of Timble is in the great survey of the Conqueror, where it is included among the King's lands in the soke of *Burc* (now Aldborough) as containing one carucate, then waste.—*Bawdwen's Dom. Boc.*, p. 16. Again, in the summary of the survey, p. 256, we find it stated that in *Elsward* (Norwood), Clifton and Timble, the King had five carucates and a half of land.

Timble is one of the few names in York-

shire spelled in the survey exactly as it is written now. When the great Honour of Knaresborough was formed, about A.D. 1130, Timble became a part of it; and when the Forest of Knaresborough was formed by William de Stuteville, about 1177, it was included therein, and has continued as such down to the present time.

This Honour was frequently granted by the Crown to some favoured nobleman, or person of distinction, as in 1177 to William de Stuteville, in whose family it continued until 1204, when it reverted to the Crown, and in the following year Brian de l'Isle was appointed custodian for the King. In 1229, the Castle and Honour of Knaresburgh were granted to Hubert de Burgh, and resumed by the King in 1233, who granted the same to his brother Richard, Earl of Cornwall, who held it until 1275, when he was succeeded by his son Edmund, also Earl of Cornwall, who held it until his death, in 1299. In the Inquisition *post mortem* held on the death of Edmund, amongst his possessions therein enumerated are "Timble Brian, hamlet," and "Timble Percy, hamlet." These names both apply to Great Timble, and originated from a dispute between the tenants of Brian de Insula, Lord of the Honour of Knaresborough, 1205-1222, and the "Peerless Percy," over-lord of the Manors of Weston and Denton, respecting the right of pasturing their cattle and sheep on the common lands of Timble. The dispute appears to have been settled by a compromise, by which the tenants of Denton were allowed

rights of pasturage on the payment of a small fee, or rent, by way of acknowledgment. At the present time a portion of Denton Moor is in the township of Timble, which is rated at £25, and this is divided amongst all the farmers of Denton, through their right of common of pasturage, so that when a 6d. rate is laid, the collector has to visit every house in Denton for the sum of 12s. 6d., being about an average of 2d. each.

In the year 1307, King Edward II. granted to his favourite, Peter de Gaveston, and his heirs, the Honour of Knaresborough, which he held only for one year, when he was driven from the kingdom, but recalled and restored in 1311, and held it until his death, in 1312.

In 1318, the whole of the Forest of Knaresborough was plundered and devastated by the incursions of the Scots, under Earl Randolph and Sir James Douglas, so much so that the inhabitants had their rents forgiven them by the King, and *Tymbell* is especially mentioned as one of the places thus exempted.

The Castle and Honour of Knaresborough were settled by King Edward III. upon his Queen, the heroic Philippa, who held it until her death, in 1369.

In 1371, King Edward III. granted the Honour of Knaresborough, with all belonging thereto, to his dear son John, King of Castile and Leon, in right of his wife, Constance, daughter of Pedro, the cruel, and most illustrious Duke of Lancaster. He was the fourth son of King Edward, and was commonly known by the name of John of Ghent, or Gaunt,

from his birth-place in Flanders. His name is yet familiar in this district ; the ruined peel or park keeper's lodge at the top of Haverah Park yet bears the name of " John O'Gaunt's Castle." When the dukedom of Lancaster became merged in the Crown, on the accession of Henry IV., the Lords of the Honour of Knaresborough have been virtually the Kings and Queens of England. Two royal ladies of England, since then, have had the Honour of Knaresborough in dower—Henrietta Maria, Queen of Charles I., and Catherine of Braganza, Queen of Charles II.

Since 1752, the family now represented by the Duke of Devonshire have held the Castle and Honour of Knaresborough on lease from the Duchy of Lancaster.

When the Forest of Knaresborough was formed, the inhabitants were not driven away and the district entirely given up to wild beasts and the pleasures of the chase. They held possession of their lands, and became copyhold tenants under the Lord of the Honour, and were governed by a regular code of well known laws and customs.

The Court for the Forest is styled the Sheriff Torne, or Great Court Leet, and is held in the castle of Knaresborough twice a year, within a month after Easter, and at Michaelmas. The adjourned Court, called "The Grand Inquest," is held in different parts of the Forest, as fixed at the Sheriff Torne. Constables for the district were formerly appointed at this court, but this part of its power was taken away by an Act of Parliament passed

in 1842. This was also a court for the recovery of debts, and the carrying on of civil actions, and was held every Wednesday three weeks for the Forest and Forest Liberty: the County Courts have entirely absorbed this part of the business. Though shorn of much of its former greatness, this Court cannot cease to exist, as the greatest part of the land of the Forest is held by copy of Court Roll; and the principal business now is receiving surrenders, admitting copyhold tenants, presenting nuisances, receiving rents and fines for encroachments. The officers are: a high steward, a learned steward, an under steward; also a bailiff, a grave, and bedel are chosen annually by the jury.

"The ancient customs of the Forest of Knaresborough" are too long to be given here, but may be seen in their entirety in "The History of Harrogate and the Forest of Knaresborough," pp. 97-106.

So far from being an oppressed and trampled people, the foresters might be considered favourites of their royal master, living under a code of just and equitable laws, and having in a great measure the power of self-government. In 1307 the inhabitants of the Honour of Knaresborough were exempted by royal charter from all toll, pontage, murage, &c., throughout the kingdom. In 1439 John Kemp, Cardinal Archbishop of York, attempted to violate this charter by subjecting the foresters to toll in his Market towns of Otley and Ripon. This they resented with their bills and bows, and on the 8th of

May, 1441, completely routed a large armed force which the Archbishop had raised for their subjugation. The foresters were frequently called upon to exercise their courage and warlike skill in other than domestic feuds. In 1446 Sir William Plumpton, with the men of the Honour of Knaresborough, joined the forces of the Earl of Northumberland, and rode northward for the purpose of making an incursion on the Scottish borders.

During the Wars of the Roses they suffered severely. In 1460, when Edward IV. had assumed the Crown, and was on his march northward to vindicate his title by the sword, two mandates in rapid succession reached Sir William Plumpton, the first tested at York, March 12th, 1460, containing an order for Sir Thomas Tunstall, Knight, Sir Thos. Tresham, Knight, and Sir William Plumpton, Knight, "to summon all the men of the Forest or Demesne of Knaresborough to set out with them to meet the enemy;" the second on the day following, straitly charging "our well-beloved knight, Sir William Plumpton, to repair to the royal presence with his array in all haste." Sir William accordingly led his foresters to the field; and on the 29th of the same month, being Palm Sunday, the terrible battle of Towton was fought.

" Where the river ran all gory,
And in hillocks lay the dead,
And seven and thirty thousand
Fell for the white and red."

The Earl of Northumberland, the general, was slain on the field, and also the more

immediate leader of the foresters, William Plumpton, eldest son of Sir William Plumpton ; and Sir William himself was either taken prisoner, or otherwise compelled to throw himself on the mercy of his enemies, which was accorded to him, as on the 13th of May following he received a letter of protection from King Edward IV., and a general pardon shortly afterwards.

Being now reputed a loyal subject, in the year 1463 he was restored to his offices of Constable of the Castle and Master Forester of the Forest of Knaresborough. On April 24th, 1489, the Earl of Northumberland wrote a pressing note to Sir Robert Plumpton, son and successor of the above Sir William, entreating him to march with his nephew, Sir William Gascoigne, with such armed followers as he could trust, to the town of Thirsk, on the Monday following the date thereof. Sir Robert obeyed the summons, and led the foresters to the assistance of his superior lord, but he did not arrive in time to prevent the massacre of the Earl by an enraged populace, at his Manor of Topcliffe, four days after the letter was written. Henceforward Sir Robert was actively employed in suppressing the insurrection of the Commons, which was not finally subdued until the Battle of Ackworth, in May, 1492. During these troubles Sir Robert demeaned himself in such a manner as to receive a special letter of thanks from the King, "for his great and agreeable services."

During the civil wars of the seventeenth

century, the influence of the Fairfax family was predominant in the Forest, and many of its sturdy sons were to be found in the ranks led by "the rider of the white horse," the fiery young Tom Fairfax.

If the pedigree of many a Forest family were traced, it would be found that they had ancestors who fought for England on many a famous battle field, both on the rugged hills of Scotland and the sunny plains of France; shared the perils and sufferings of the Wars of the Roses, and triumphed and bled on Marston's swarthy moor.

Timble=cum=Fewston.

In the Court Rolls of the Forest of Knaresborough, and in many other documents, the name of Timble takes precedence of that of Fewston, as in 1663 it occurs "*Timble-cum-Fewston vills.*" In Court Rolls, the description of property in Fewston is—" *infra hamlets de Fuiston et villa de Timble, infra Foresta de Knaresburgh.*" Thus implying that Timble was head of the parish in civil matters, although Fewston held that position in affairs ecclesiastical. The reason of this was that Timble was at the head of one of the great Constabularies into which, in early times, the Forest of Knaresborough was divided, which included Timble, Fewston, Blubberhouses and Norwood. Our reason for including Norwood is the following extract from the Knaresborough Court Rolls—" 22nd, Richard II.nd,

William de Brame surrendered lands in Tymble in Northwode."

This junction of townships is sometimes puzzling and unsatisfactory; for instance, in the Poll Tax Roll, in 1379, the names of the people who paid the tax is given in a mass, and not under the heads of their proper townships, so that we can only give the names of those living in Timble shortly after that time. We select the following, with the sums they paid:—

	<i>d.</i>
John de Iles, junior	4
Adam Schepbird	4
Isabella Polayn	4
John, her servant	4
Agnes, her servant	4
William de Thackwra	4
William de Bramley	4
John de Hardolfsty	4
Stephen de Hardolfsty	4
John de Iles, senior	4
Robert de Gyll	4
Thomas de Holyns	4
Robert de Herefeld	4

A contest between Hubert, prior, and the convent of Bridlington, on the one part, and Brian de Insula and Robert de Percy, on the other part, about common of pasture in Tymbel and Blubberhouses, was agreed, 2nd Henry III., A.D. 1218.—*Burton's Mon. Ebor.*

In an Inquisition *post mortem*, on the death of Richard and William de Percy, 43rd Henry III., A.D. 1259, Robert, son of Robert of Timbel, was one of the jurors for the valuation of the Manors of Spofforth and Linton.

A dispute respecting boundaries, or rights of common pasturage, between the prior and canons of Bolton and the lords of the Honour of Knaresborough, was of ancient date. By an Inquisition taken in the Earl of Cornwall's Court of Knaresborough, 22nd of Edward I., the prior and canons of Bolton, for themselves and their tenants in Bethmesley, vindicated their right of pasturage in Walkesburne Head, of which they had been deprived by the steward of the Earl's father. Part of the lands which gave the prior and canons this right of common was a bovaté, formerly held by Leuwine, and given with his body by William Mauleverer.

The domains of Bolton anciently stretched to the Washburn, within which this roggan stone (Roggan Hall) is situate, but through a degree of negligence, of which the canons of Bolton would not have been guilty, some thousand acres of common have been lost to the estate, by being allowed to be included in the survey of Knaresborough Forest, previous to the inclosure of that extensive and yet unproductive tract.—*Whitaker's Craven*, p. 496.

King Henry VI. granted a right of common on the Forest of Knaresborough to the prior of Bolton, which was to extend from Washburn Head and Timble unto the fyle of the said water.—*Hargrove's Knaresborough*, p. 134.

A letter in the Plumptre Correspondence, p. 25, addressed to Sir William Plumptre, knight, Custos of the Castle of Knaresburgh, reads thus—"And it please to deliver unto Robert of Tymble a Stub, which Mr.

Controller granted unto his ward for him and his wife." The stub would be a dead timber tree.

In the 33rd of Elizabeth, A.D. 1586, John Frankland and John Pulleyn were defendants in a suit in the Duchy Court of Lancaster, against the complaint of Thomas Douglass, concerning a halfpennyworth and a pennyworth of land, situate in Keskil, Timble township, Knaresborough Forest.

This evidently refers to those two small and singularly isolated patches of land which, though completely detached and surrounded by the lands of Blubberhouses, have from time immemorial belonged to Great Timble. The larger is called Bothams, and the smaller Paradise. These, in 1882, were annexed to the township of Blubberhouses for all rating and parochial purposes, though the lands yet remain copyhold of the Forest of Knaresborough.

In 1613, when a project was started for the enclosure of the Forest of Knaresborough, a survey was made, in which Timble is thus described :—

	ACRES.
Timble Moor, east from Gott House	283
Sir Tho. Fairfax clame there.....	65
From thence to Liperley Pik, south from Ragill Beck	527
From Liperley Pik west, from a Goot to Gaukhall	69
Mr. Middleton's clame in Tymble Moore	181
Mr. Clapham's clame there	162

Encroachments within the forest of Knaresborough.

From Report of a Commission to Thomas Lascelles, Sir Richard Musgrave, and others, dated September 4th, 1616, we find that in Tymble:—

Thomas Hearfield, for incroaching one half rood, in value 1d.

Christopher Hardistie, one half rood, in value 1d.

Robert Jeffraie, one half rood, in value 1d.

Jo. Isles, one half rood, in value 1d.

Francis Taskir, one half rood, in value 1d.

From a survey and valuation of the Forest of Knaresborough, commonly called CROMWELL'S SURVEY, taken by Thomas Birchensha, Gabriel Taylor, and John Thorne, August 5th, 1651, we find it stated that Thomas, Lord Fairfax, holdeth (as Executor of his Father, Ferdinando, Lord Fairfax) the fifths of all goods, Chattels, Debts, and Credits of all Felons whatsoever: Felons of themselves, and Fugatives, Clerkes, convicted Outlaws, Deodands, Wayffes and Strayes, and Wrecks of Sea, within the whole Honor of Knaresburgh, for which he payeth the yearly sum of five pounds. But is worth upon—Deferred—besides the present per ann. *vli*.

Memorandum. The aforesaid Royalties were granted to the aforesaid Ferdinand, Lord Fairfax, by Indenture dated xx.^o Dec. 17.^o Car. 1641, from the late Queene.

To have and to hold the said Royalties for

and during the Terme of xxj. years, to commence after the expiration of another Lease of the premises of xxj. years, granted to Sir Thos. Fairfax, of Denton, xij. Jac., yielding and paying therefore yearly at Lady Day and Michaelmas the aforementioned rent of vli., by equal portions; but if the profitts of any part of the premisses do amount unto fifty pounds, and above, then the said Lord Fairfax is to pay the moyety of the said Profitts to the value of the same. Except out of the said grant all present rents reserved upon any part of the premises, by any Lease, either for years or lives.

Thomas, Lord Fairfax, holdeth, as aforesaid, the Royalty and Benefit of all mynes of Copper, Tynne, Lead, Coale, and Quarries of Stone, and Slate Stones, with the Forest of Knaresburgh, for which he is to pay, in lieu of rent, the fifth part of the Profittes. But we estimate the whole profitts to be worth, upon Improvement, per ann. vli.

Memorandum. The aforesaid Royalties of Mynes and Quarries were granted by Indenture from the late Queene xxnd, Decem. 17, Car. 1641, to Ferdinando, Lord Fairfax, for the term aforesaid, to commence as aforesaid. Yielding and paying a fifth part of the Profitts arising out of the aforesaid premisses, and yearly giving a just accompt upon oath of the said Profitts; and if within Forty days of the said accompt given, the said fifth part be not answered, that then the said grant be voyd.

A rental of the whole Forest is next

given, in which Timble stands thus :—

TYMBLE ALS THYMBLE TOWNESHIPP.

	£	s.	d.
From the Tents of Tymble Hamlett	5	6	5 $\frac{1}{4}$
From the Tents of Fewston Hamlett	8	1	4 $\frac{1}{4}$
From the Tents of Clyfton Hamlett	11	15	5 $\frac{1}{2}$
Clifton Gild rent	1	7	3
Sum	<u>£26 10 6</u>		

The “Fee Farm rent” of the Forest of Knaresborough were sold in 1696 to the Earl of Portland, and are now vested in Mr. Scott Murray, whose agent attends to receive them twice a year. What are called “Queen’s Rents,” payable to the Duke of Devonshire as Lessee of the Honour, are much smaller in amount, and are collected in one sum at Michaelmas annually.

An Account of the Wastes of the Disforested Forest of Knaresborough.

The Common and Waste grounds lying within the Forest, or disforested Forest of Knaresburgh, in which the aforesaid several townships do clayme a Right of Common, do contain by estimation about fifteen thousand acres, which were leased out by the late Prince Henry to several persons hereafter mentioned, at the yearly rent of one shilling per acre, which amounteth in the whole to the yearly rent of seven hundred and fifty pounds

—But is worth upon improvement, besides the aforesaid rent, per ann. £750.

Memorandum. That Prince Henry, by Indenture dated xxiiij. Martij jx. Jac., 1612, did grant unto Fra. Tunstall, John Girlington, and Edward Fairfax, Esq., to and for the use and behalfe of the Tennants, Freeholders, Copyholders, and Ancient Cottagers in the Forest of Knaresburgh, six thousand acres of the waste of the said Forest. Except all Trees, Beeches, Thorns, Shrubbs, and Underwoods whatsoever, growing upon the premises. Also all mynes of Coal and other metalls:—To have and to hold the said premises from the Feast of Michael, the archangel, 1612, for and during the term of Forty years, thence fully to be completed and ended. Paying, therefore, yearly at Lady Day and Michaelmas, by equal portions, the sum of Three hundred pounds, which is according to the proportion of twelve pence per acre.

Memorandum. That the said Prince Henry, by his Indenture dated iiij. Junij., x.^o Jac., did grant to Richard Paver and Edward Fairfax, Esq., for the use of the Tenants aforesaid, six thousand acres more of the said waste (except as aforesaid), for and during the terme of Forty years, as aforesaid. Paying, therefore, yearly, the rent of one shilling per acre, which amounts in the whole to the sum of Three hundred pounds per ann.

Memorandum. The said Prince Henry, by Deed dated 9th June, x.^o Jac., 1612, did grant to the said Paver and Fairfax the rest and residue of the Waste grounds in the said

Forest, over and above the said 6,000 acres, for and during the term aforesaid, and paying the rent of one shilling per acre, as aforesaid, which residue we estimate to be about three thousand acres, for which the aforesaid rent will amount to the sum of one hundred and fifty pounds per ann.

Memorandum. There is about one year unexpired of the said Grant.

Memorandum. That the Tenants of the said Forest did never permit the aforesaid Leasees to inclose any part of the said Waste, for which cause no rent has ever been answered for the same, but it lyeth yet in waste. And we thought to give this accompt of the Premises, because the said Forest is disforested.

The interest of Thomas, Lord Fairfax, in the leases above mentioned had not expired in 1667, the year in which he made his will, and in which he thus disposes of the same:—
“Item. I give to Henry Fairfax, aforesaid, Esqre., my Advowson and right of presentacion to the Rectory of Newton, in the County of Yorke, and to his heires and assignes for ever. And also I give unto him all my right and intrest of two Leases of the Royalties of the Forest of Knaresbrough, in the County of Yorke.”—*Markham's Life of Lord Fairfax*, p. 445.

A Timble Charity, from the Fewston Register.

“Md. that there is another register booke which begins in 1592. Given by Thomas Clapham, 10*li.* for the Church, and 10*li.* for the poore. Feb. 4, 1639.”

Thomas Clapham's gift is more fully described in another part of the register, as follows:—“Februarie 4th, 1639. Given by Thomas Clapham, within the township of Timble, linnen webster, the summe of ten pounds to the Church of Fewston, and the yearly increase thereof to redound to the Vicar thereof for the time being, and to all others successively, to the end of the world. Given also by the said Thomas Clapham, other ten pounds, and the use thereof to redound to the poor of the said parish.”

The above record of his benefactions, and the following brief obituary, also from the parish register, are all that we know of Thomas Clapham:—“1641. Thomas Clapham, that good benefactor, both to the Church and to the poore, was bur. 29th April.” He appears to have been alone in the parish, as there are no others of the name either preceding or following after him.

The Hearth Tax Roll, 1672.

TIMBLE-CUM-FEWSTON.

Here we have the same difficulty as met us in the Poll Tax Roll, but not to so great an

extent, as now we have only the occupiers of houses in Timble and Fewston to deal with, and as they are not very numerous we will give them all. The figure after the name indicates the number of hearths in the dwelling.

Thomas Holmes	1	William Simpson	1
Willm. Cooke	1	William Iles	1
John Pullan	2	Francis Croft	1
Steven Cass	1	John Parker	3
John Jeffrey, sen.	1	George Coates	2
John Jeffray, junr.	1	Samuel Linley	2
John Yates	1	Mr. Richard Williamson	6
Anthony Pullan	2	John Williamson	2
Richard Snell	1	Robert England	2
John Lambert	1	Widdow Thackerey . . .	1
Widdow Snell	1	George Lister	1
Ireton Snell	1	Thomas Oddy	3
John Wood	1	Richard Metcalfe	2
John Ward	1	Steven Hardisty	1
Robert Wilson	1	Henry Jesson	1
George Harrison	1	Francis Hardisty	2
Daniel Woodhead	1	Widdow Bannister	1
Widdow Sladen	1	Henry Simpson	1
Thomas Roberts	1	Richard Oddy	2
John Foster	1	Thomas Sugden	1
Thomas Dunwell	1	Francis Watson	1
Thomas Richardson	2	John Ward	1
Widdow Watson	1	John Roundell	1
John Gamlin	1	Henry Hatton	1
John Richmond	1	George Brigg	1
Willm. Stockdale	1	William Thackerey	2
George Spence	1	Brian Saxton	1
Robert Whitacre	1	Willm. Hardisty, senr. .	1
John Simpson	1	Willm. Hardisty, junr. .	1
Samuel Saxton	1	John Hobson	1
Robert Irish, senr.	1	George Stead	2
Thomas Moorhouse	1	Willm. Hawkswell	1

Rob. or Tho. Umpleby	1	Thomas Rowstone	.. 3
John Bramley.....	1	John Iles.....	1
John Beecroft 1	Empty and no distress	
Robert Irish, junr.....	2	to be had.	
Richard Beecroft 2	Jno. Cowburne 1
Mr. Willm. Barker:....	1	Omitted by reason of	
William Gill 2	poverty 3
Robert Smith.....	5	Robert Husband, Collr.	
Widdow Holmesby	.. 1	Thomas Ward, Const.	

Hearth money, or chimney money, was collected under an Act of Parliament passed in 1661-2, whereby a payment of two shillings upon every fire hearth was added to the Crown of England. It was collected in an arbitrary manner, and was excessively unpopular. It continued until 1676, when it was redeemed for eight years purchase. From this roll we learn the names of the inhabitants of the country at that time, the kind of houses in which they dwelt, and also very nearly the amount of population. The number of dwellings at that time in Timble and Fewston was 80, of which 59 were cottages with only one "fire hearth" each, and the population would be about 360.

Botbams.

This is a singular place in many respects; it belongs, with another small patch of land near it, to the township of Great Timble, though completely detached from it; it is copyhold of the Forest of Knaresborough, though completely surrounded by the freehold lands of Blubberhouses; it is singularly

situated on the southern side of the high road leading from Knaresborough to Skipton, occupying the slope of the hill on the left, before the road enters the rugged glen through which the road ascends to Kexgill Moor; moreover, the whole surface has slipped some distance down the slope on which it is situate. At what time it was enclosed from the surrounding waste, and a habitation built upon it, is not known. The name seems to us to be derived from *Bothna* or *Buthna*, a park where cattle were enclosed and fed. *Bothag* in Gaelic is a cot, or hut, or booth.

The first mention we find of these two plots of isolated land is in the 33rd year of Elizabeth, 1591, when John Frankland and John Pulleyn were defendants in a law suit in the Duchy Court of Lancaster, against Thomas Douglass, respecting a halfpennyworth and a pennyworth of land, situate in Keskill, Timble township, Knaresborough Forest. That the defendants were successful in holding their own we have no doubt, as the smaller portion belonged to the Frankland's estate until the extinction of that name, from whom it descended to Lord Walsingham, the present owner. It is only 4a. 2r. 8p. in extent, and in 1838 was occupied by Dennis Tiplady, for how long before that time we know not; the Tipladys were in the parish in early times. In 1629, Thomas, son of Thomas Tiplady, was baptised 31st March; in 1662, Thomas Tiplady, elder, buried 9th February; and again, 1667, August, Jane, daughter of Thomas Tiplady, baptised 25th day.—*Fewston Par. Reg.*

Some one, perhaps in jest, has named this bit of mountain ground *Paradise*.

John Pulleyn's portion, the pennyworth (23 acres), has probably remained in the ownership of the same name from that time until now; the present owner being Mr. Samuel Pullan, who has clear evidence of ownership in his family from 1690, downwards, to himself. At that time Samuel Pullan was the owner, and resided occasionally at Arkendale, near Knaresborough, where he was owner of 24 acres of land in the open fields, and also had tenants besides, who paid rents amounting to £18 8s. 6d. yearly. He was agent for the Frankland's estate at Blubberhouses, and also occupied the land belonging to them opposite Bothams, extending from Kexgill Beck on the south to the old Skipton road on the north, and from the old camp on the east to Kexgill plantation on the west, yet known by the name of Botham's Intake. He sometimes resided here, as we find in the Fewston parish register:—"1691, May. Timothy, son of Samuel Pullan, bap. 28th." His wife's name was Mary. Of his death we have no record.

He was succeeded in his estates, and also in his Frankland agency, by his son, Timothy Pullan, born 1691, who married Martha Benson, of Dacre Banks, by whom he had a son, William, and also a daughter, Mary, who married — Downham, of Haverah Park. He died January 30th, 1754, and was buried at Fewston.

William Pullan succeeded; he was born at

Blubberhouses, July 15th, 1733, married Jane Atkinson at Gargrave, Dec. 7th, 1757, and died April 16th, 1800. He was succeeded by his son, John Pullan, born Oct. 16th, 1772, married Ann Roberts, of Otley, July 7th, 1796, and died Jan. 25th, 1840.

William Pullan, son and successor, born July 7th, 1799, married July 7th, 1836, Mary, daughter of John Kendall, of Norwood, and died March 12th, 1848.

Samuel Pullan, present owner, succeeded on his father's death; born February 21st, 1839, married Sep. 16th, 1871, Sarah L. Winn, of Haverah Park, by whom he has issue:

Frank Pullan, born July 23rd, 1872, etc.

The above names and dates are from Mr. Pullan's family bible, in black letter, "Imprinted in London by Robert Baxter, 1608."

On an old building now used as a barn, formerly a dwelling house, is inscribed C.B. 1704; these are the initials of — Brown, as on October 29th, 1759, John Brown was owner of three acres of land here, which afterwards passed into another family, and was purchased from one Sarah Hartley by William Pullan, great grandfather of the present owner.

As already stated, Bothams has slipped from its original position at some remote period, but the water which caused the mass to move has either been drained away or found an outlet, as the land has not moved for a long series of years. In consequence of this movement, the surface presents a variety of swells and depressions, constituting a small romantic domain possessed of much natural

beauty. The original homestead stood at the upper part of the domain, close to the edge of the moor, in a cosy spot with its back to the north wind, and its front to the sunshine of the south, enclosed at a short distance east, west and south by hills much higher than the top of its chimney. On pulling down and removing the old building, it was found that it was the second which had stood on that site. Among the relics found were some pieces of tile, which had evidently belonged to a drying kiln, hence we may infer that the occupier had the means of drying his own oats for shelling, while the quern, also found near, would convert the same into meal. The site is now converted into a garden. Mr. Pullan has erected a new homestead near the centre of his estate, in the front of which he has collected quite a museum of curiosities, either found in his own land or the neighbourhood, fossil plants and shells, specimens of lead ore from the Kexgill mine and from Appletree-wick, nodules of ironstone of very singular shape, ancient querns, two cannon balls, and many more highly interesting objects. A portion of the slope adjacent to the house has been turned into a small pleasure ground, every swell adorned with a plot of flowers or a shrub, evincing much taste for the beautiful, and producing a pretty effect. A short distance south-eastward, a mountain runnel, dashing down a rugged gorge, presents a marked but pleasing contrast to the piece of artificial ground.

An Ancient Earthwork.

On the opposite side of the valley to Bothams, a little nearer Blubberhouses, is an ancient earthwork, about 50 yards in length by 15 yards in width, and 5 yards in depth from the upper edge of the agger. All the earth has been thrown outwards, except at the south-east corner, where an opening may have formed an entrance. No one can doubt the artificial origin of this work, but when it was made, by whom, and for what purpose, is not so easily determined. It may be Celtic. It appears to be entirely unknown, except to Mr. Samuel Pullan, who pointed it out to us.

Shooting Extraordinary.

On the Blubberhouses moors, which are adjacent to Timble, Lord Walsingham, lord of the manor and owner of the greatest part of the township, on the 28th of August, 1872, shot 842 grouse. This was deemed such a great number by many who professed to be sporting experts, that they declared it physically impossible, that no man had done it, and that no man could do it. To these sceptics his lordship replied in a practical manner on the 30th of August, 1888, by killing on that day 1,058 head of grouse; of these, 1,036 were brought home the same night, and 22 were picked up on the following day. This feat is regarded as hitherto unprecedented.

Another account gives further particulars : Driving began at 5.12 a.m. There were twenty drives, and the work finished at 7.30 p.m. The number of cartridges fired was about 1,550, including 40 signal shots not fired at birds. Deducting 14 birds killed on the way home, adding 22 + 12 picked up, we have 1,056 killed in 449 minutes, or $2\frac{1}{2}$ per minute, in the actual time occupied in shooting in the twenty drives. Once his lordship killed three birds with one shot, and three times he killed two at one shot—certainly, altogether, a most extraordinary performance.

Folk Lore.

This district ought to yield a rich and plentiful harvest of Folk Lore, considering what a noble seed it had to spring from in the “Dæmonologia” of Edward Fairfax; but it is not so; we only now can reap a scanty produce, scarcely worth the gathering, and every year sees it growing less and less. The age of Fairfax was the golden age of superstition. At that time “the world saw men and spirits walking side by side.” We have fallen on more degenerate days, and the spirits are now content to rap their messages out of dead timber, which only a gifted few can read and understand. We have already given two bits of local Folk Lore in the account of Timble Gill. We now present another of a different age and kind. It is from the *Wharfedale and*

Airedale Observer newspaper of November 16th, 1883, bearing the title of

“A MYSTERIOUS WORKER: A STORY
OF TIMBLE GREAT.”

About the year 1825, there lived at Timble Great a young man named William Holmes, a shoemaker by trade, who, being of a thrifty turn of mind, thought it economy to rent a house, where he lived alone, and carried on his trade. Under such circumstances, it was only in the natural order of country life, that the young shoemaker's shop should soon become a place of resort for the young fellows of the neighbourhood, who would meet there on evenings and wet days, and a rough, jolly time they had of it, no doubt. Meantime, Holmes was pursuing a steady course of industry, happy in the hopes of better comfort when he had married the blooming maiden whom he was then courting. Most people may know that shoemakers use a kind of size or glue, which is commonly kept in a small tin can, usually holding about a pint, which, in shoemaker's phrase, is called the “sizing-tin.”

Now, in those days, perhaps more so than now, the sizing-tin was a conspicuous object amongst the paraphernalia of a shoemaker's stall, and it is upon the particular sizing-tin used by Holmes at the time in question that the incidents of this story will principally centre. As already hinted, the young fellows were having jolly times at the shop, and Holmes stitched and hammered away with a light heart, no doubt glad of their company to

relieve the monotony of his lonely condition. Thus passed the time merrily to the music of the lapstone, until it began to be observed by Holmes, that on certain mornings, when he went to his work, the sizing-tin aforesaid was filled with little pieces of leather parings, and other scraps usually found about a shoemaker's stall. Thinking it was the boys who visited the shop who filled the tin for a mischief, he remonstrated with them, threatening condign punishment if he only caught them in the act. Still the thing went on. Each morning, when Holmes went to his stall, there sure enough was the sizing-tin filled with scraps of leather, and it was noticed that on the top of the tin two long strips were invariably laid cross-wise.

The matter had now become a subject of general comment, and efforts were made to discover who was the secret worker. It may be observed that Holmes was the only person who slept in the house, and being firmly of opinion that the thing was carried on for a lark, he determined, if possible, to solve the mystery. He was more than usually particular in seeing that the door was securely bolted, and all windows, etc., secured to prevent ingress to the house. On these occasions he would look to the tin before he retired to rest, and find it empty, but in the morning there was the tin filled as usual. Thinking that it might be the rats that did it, he balanced the tin at the end of a small rod of iron which was driven into the wood of the stall, so that the slightest touch would have upset it; but still

the tin was filled as usual, and the balance undisturbed.

As a last resource, the puzzled cobbler tried the experiment of cutting off supplies by sweeping up and destroying all pieces of leather, etc., such as had been put into the tin before, but the industrious worker, though not filling the tin as usual, always managed to get hold of something to put in, such as broken pieces of glass, etc.

In those days, the civilizing influences of the rural postman and policeman were not yet dreamt of, and the young fellows of Timble enjoyed a wild freedom, which might almost be envied by their law-abiding descendants of the present day. Instead of poring over books and newspapers, and spending money in whiskey and cigars, the young men of that period organized companies, and, Robin Hood like, sallied forth at night to the well stocked preserves of the neighbouring Squires; and many and heavy were the bags of game which they secured. Holmes was amongst the first to join in these midnight expeditions, and oft when returning home on these occasions, at two or three o'clock in the morning, he would look at the tin and find it about half filled, and on getting up a few hours after, it had been filled up, with the usual cross at the top.

About this time a very pious dissenting minister was staying in the village, and he, in company with the village tailor, also a God-fearing man, volunteered to stay in the house all night, to see if they could make anything

out towards solving the mystery, and they both testified that about the middle of the night they heard something make a noise like a person breathing very quick and short. It may be stated, however, that Holmes never heard anything but what could be accounted for.

The subject was now the talk of the neighbourhood, and still the mysterious worker continued to fill the tin. One day, after dinner, Holmes, as was his custom, went to sit a little while at a neighbour's house, of course locking the door before leaving. On returning, he found that the thing had been at work during his absence, the tin being partly filled. This audacious and untimely activity of the mysterious worker, for the first time, seriously alarmed our long-suffering cobbler, and he at once packed up his goods and removed into lodgings. It may be thought strange that Holmes did not leave the house sooner, but he was a man who was very sceptical on matters of that kind, and besides the mystery was of such a simple nature. He used to say, in a joking sort of way, that it was an idiot boy named Tommy Kay, who had died some years before, that filled the tin, as it was just like his ways when he was alive. Holmes was a man of sound judgment and good common sense, and his veracity was above suspicion, and in after years, when he had married the blooming maiden before referred to, and risen to the position of a respectable farmer and cattle dealer, he always repeated the story as above stated.

Holmes died about the year 1850, but there are still men living in the village who recollect all the incidents of this simple but mysterious affair. I have heard the story told hundreds of times, by men and women who were observers of the case throughout, and they all seemed to be certain that the work of filling the tin was done by some influence which could not be accounted for by any known natural causes. This is the best authenticated case of what looks like supernatural phenomena that the traditions of our neighbourhood can produce. It has made its impress on the villagers as a reality that is still fresh at the present day.

With the removal of Holmes and his sizing-tin, the mysterious worker appears to have gone to rest, as the house in which it indulged in its simple midnight freaks has been free from ghostly visitants ever since.—J.D.

White Crag,

A hamlet now near the edge of the Fewston reservoir, was once the favourite abode of witches, evil-eyed ill-wishers, and all the suspected class of dealers in glamour and diablerie, as well as their credulous victims; but all this has changed, cattle are no longer bewitched and die of lingering and mysterious maladies, of which no merely mortal cow-leech hath knowledge, and to which the occult powers of the *wiseman* could alone administer a remedy. Even its odd characters are rarities, since Johnny Sharp departed hence.

Johnny truly exemplified the rustic proverb, "Strang i' th' airm but waik i' th' heead." He dwelt, along with a female companion, in a cottage at White Crag, working, occasionally, for the neighbouring farmers in hay-time and harvest, and also doing all the horse work that was needed on his patch of land, stirring the soil with a plough of his own making, which he pushed before him. With a hand-cart, also partly of his own making, he used to travel as far as Baildon Moor, a distance of twelve miles, to fetch coals for his fire, with many other actions of a like kind, indicative of great strength and little wit. Having once been, as he conceived, deeply offended by some of the dwellers in a numerously occupied house in Timble, Johnny obtained a crow-bar, and fell to work one dark night upon the walls of the house, with the intention of bringing it down upon the heads of the inhabitants within. A noise was heard, another party came upon the scene, when Johnny exclaimed: "It isn't me!" Yet when a light was obtained it was found to be the real Johnny himself. This freak led our oddity before a bench of magistrates; the case appeared to be going against him, when the constable, who was asked as to the character of the parties, knowing there was not much to choose between them, said: "The best way would be to commit them all." This led to the acquittal of them all. At length the Master came and laid him low.

"Whoe'er thou art, O reader know
That Death has murdered Johnny."

Field Lore.

Many a word reveals an historical fact, especially in a composite nation like the English, which has been derived from many different peoples, tribes and tongues, who either came as conquerors or settlers on the soil. All these have left words behind them indicative of their nationality, in the names of hills, rivers, villages, farms, and even fields. The field and place names of Timble afford a fair sprinkling of ancient names—Celtic, Danish, Norse, and Saxon. We select a few specimens from the survey of 1838, especially of those words which tell us of a state of things no longer existing. We will glance first at the traces of the “village community,” and this carries us back to a time when mankind began to band themselves together for mutual succour and defence, a period beyond the reach of written records. At this time the villages consisted of a series of cottages, or very small dwellings, with barns for their corn, and outhouses for their cattle, with a croft annexed, enclosed with a fence. The remainder of the land was situate in the common fields—here an acre, there a rood, or a few perches on a land or furshott, each divided from his neighbour’s portion by a narrow strip of meadow called a *bauk*, and which were the only boundaries of the arable lands. Sometimes these *bauks* did not exist, and then the boundary was formed by a deep and dangerous naked furrow. These large cornfields were fenced round, but the pastures were in common, and generally unfenced, with

a *herd*, whose duty it was to look after the cattle, and whose wages were paid ratably by the farmers in proportion to the number of their cattle which he had under his care. This system continued for many generations, and only gave way before the great enclosure movement near the end of the 18th century. Of this system we find traces yet existing in Timble. In Charles Dickinson's farm we find East part of Town Field 3 roods, West part of Town Field 22 perches, and another part of Town Field 22 perches. David Spence had also 17 perches in the Town Field, and William Jackson in the same Town Field 29 perches. Dickinson had in Longbarrows 3 roods and 23 perches, and William Jackson's share in Longbarrows was 1a. 3r. 21p. Besides these, John Ward, of Nether Timble, had 1 rood and 17 perches in the same field, a long narrow slip, without fence, between Dickinson's and Jackson's lots. The name Longbarrows is indicative of some burial mounds of a very early day. None exist at present. The land is under the plough, and is about the best in the township. Little Butts, also in Jackson's farm, appears to indicate the place where the youth and manhood of Timble practised archery before they bore their long bows to the battle-fields of France or Scotland. Crummock Close, in John Beecroft's farm, is a puzzling name. It may be from *Cromack*, the crooked water, as it was near the Washburn, unless it be a corruption of the Celtic *Cromlech*—a burial place enclosed with large stones. It is now covered by the Fewston Reservoir.

Rudding—a clearing—occurs many times. Shroggs—rough, bushy ground. Gambling Garth is said to have been named from cock-fighting and other games and gambings having been formerly carried on here. There is also a spring called Gambling Well. In the same farm is another field bearing the name of Raffle. Berrings, in Henry Lister's farm, must also indicate a place of burial; some say of fortification. Many of the fields are named from the crops they bear or have borne, as High Dockon Allotment, Wheat Close, Little Meadow, West Pasture, Turnip Field, Barley Close, Fog Close, Rye Close, etc.; Syke, a water-course. We give a few more field names for the amusement or edification of the etymologist—Staws, Wrenchill, Laidings, Rheus, Scawbrough, Padger Croft, Peg Rood Hill.

The Danish names, Garth and Croft, applied to small enclosures near dwellings, occur 21 times each. The word Ing, a meadow, occurs seven times. At that time only one orchard and two gardens were mentioned. Gardens are more abundant now, and the ordinary vegetables, with gooseberries, black and red currants, appear to succeed fairly well. Orchards have not much increased in number; the situation is probably too high, and the climate too cold, for the successful cultivation of fruit trees. The sycamore appears to be the favourite tree, and although not a native, grows luxuriantly, and withstands the winds better than any other tree.

Sourby is the name of a farm a short

distance west of the village, and is from the Danish *Sour*—damp, mirey; and *by*—a farm or dwelling, that is the damp mirey farm. Cop-Hirst is the head of the wood; Ellercar, the low damp ground where the alders grew. No trees grow there now, and yet the fir, the oak, the birch and the hazel are found embedded in the peat on the moors above, at a higher elevation by 300 feet.

In 1838, the number of land owners in Great Timble was 42, and the number of occupiers 37, of these 18 occupied their own lands. The largest owner was W. R. C. Stansfield, Esq., of Esholt, 322a. 3r. 11p., consisting of new enclosure, now held by the family of Crompton, of Esholt. The next was Sir Charles Ibbotson, of Denton Hall, 219a. 3r. 24p., a large triangular tract, a portion of Denton Moor, on the western boundary of the township, now held by Marmaduke D'Arcy Wyvill, Esq., of Denton Hall. The next was John Beecroft, with two farms, one Rig Top, 16a. 1r. 24p., the other Thackwray, 132 acres, of which 68 were moorland. All the other farms were under 100 acres, only three of them exceeding 50 acres. Three were above 40 acres, three above 30, eight above 20, six above 10, six above 5; all the others are below 5 acres in extent. There is not so much land under the plough as there was twenty years ago, consequently the hay-making month is the busiest month of all the year; this is generally August, in the highest parts of the district September, and one farmer, with more patience than ordinary, said he never

despaired of getting his hay until October was out.

The farms being generally small, and not affording employment for the farmers and their families during the whole year, many of them became cattle-dealers. At one time five different firms in Timble were engaged in the business, collecting chiefly milk cows from the country round about, driving them to Otley market, whence they were sold to supply the large manufacturing towns, such as Leeds and Bradford. Now the establishment of Auction Marts in nearly all the market towns has absorbed the business, and now Timble has only two cattle dealers, one of whom is also owner of an Auction Mart.

The Old School.

Timble has had three schools, all the buildings of which are yet in existence. The first is now used as a cow-house, the second is a Wesleyan Chapel, and the third is of recent origin in the new Library building. At what time the first was built we have no direct information. It was in existence when the Forest of Knaresborough was enclosed in 1778, as at that time 2a. 1r. 5p. of land were awarded to the poor of Fewston parish and the school at Timble; "but this land was improperly sold by the Overseers 25 years ago—1813—for £10." Very little information is to be obtained about it. Crispin Dunwell, an old man 87 years of age, who was born at Timble Ridge, in the house nearest the school,

remembers going thither to be taught when a youth about ten years of age, but does not remember even the name of the master. In 1838, the school and school garth were the property of William Lupton, and are now held by his widow.

The situation is a very pleasant one on the eminence called Timble Ridge, about 500 yards north of the village. The teaching, and perhaps also the master's living room, is 17 feet in length by 13 feet 6 inches in width, and has had a window of three lights towards the east, and another towards the south, and a fire-place of the roughest kind of workmanship at the west end. The room has been open to the thatched roof, and the walls have never been plastered, only whitewashed. A small pantry has opened at one corner. There is another small room adjoining under the same roof, but which cannot have been used for domestic purposes. The whole fabric has been thrown together by some person totally unskilled in mason craft.

The Wesleyan Chapel or School.

The Wesleyan Chapel is a small unpretentious building of stone, lighted by two square windows in front, and one at the back. The interior is neatly and conveniently fitted up, and the seats will accommodate about 80 hearers. The original pulpit at the east end has been removed, and a small platform substituted in its place. In winter it is warmed by a stove.

The original object of the building, as set forth in the deeds, was to provide convenience for "a National Day and Sunday School in connection with the Established Church of England." The Government of the day made a grant of £22 towards the cost of the building. The outlay beyond that amount was raised by public subscription, to which all classes and sects in the neighbourhood contributed. The team work was done by the neighbouring farmers free of charge. At that time the Wesleyans had not gained a footing in the village, but the Primitives occasionally sent a preacher; and with the object of providing a convenience for these services, by mutual arrangement, a pulpit was fixed in the building at the time of its erection. The Primitives, however, refused to hold services in the building unless it was made over to their Conference. The Wesleyans soon afterwards established themselves in the village, and they have regularly held service in the building to the present time.

The first schoolmaster who taught in the new building was William Hardisty, a man of sound, practical knowledge, and a most industrious and competent teacher. During the eight or ten years he stayed at Timble, he was employed to survey the township, a copy of which is yet in existence, containing the names of owners and occupiers, with the name and area of each field, in his own clear and beautiful handwriting.

Edward Marshall was the next master, a

small, deformed man, but a good scholar and intelligent teacher.

John Robinson, a Knaresborough man, came next, and taught for a few years with good results.

John Dickinson, an old pupil of Hardisty's, taught at intervals during the winter months when there was no regular master.

Edward Marshall, after many vicissitudes, returned again to the scene of his former labours, and taught for a few years, but again resigned. Soon afterwards, in 1875, the School Board District of Fewston, which included Timble, was formed, since which time no week-day school has been held in the building. At present the place is under the sole management of the Wesleyans, and is used in every sense as though it were made over to their Conference.

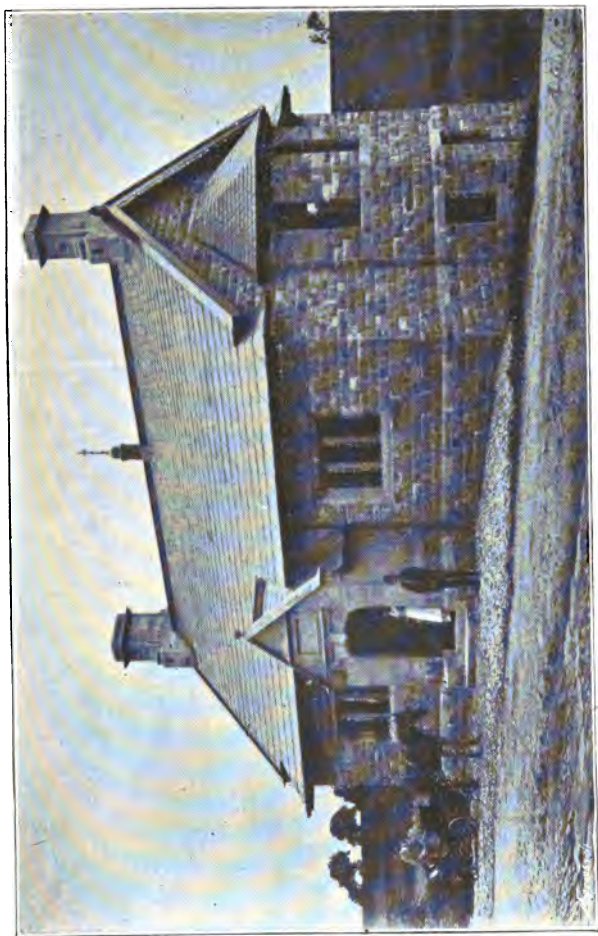
The following is an extract from the Forest Court Rolls at Knaresborough, by which the land was conveyed to trustees for the purposes aforesaid :—

“July 22nd, 1835. Be it Remembered that Michael Wood, of Timble Great, in the County of York, yeoman, in consideration of the sum of twenty shillings of lawful English money to him paid by William Jackson, Wilks Ward and William Holmes, all of Timble Great aforesaid, yeomen, Trustees of the National Day and Sunday School in connexion with the Established Church of England, intended to be erected on the parcel of land hereinafter described, the receipt whereof he, the said Michael Wood, doth hereby admit. Hath

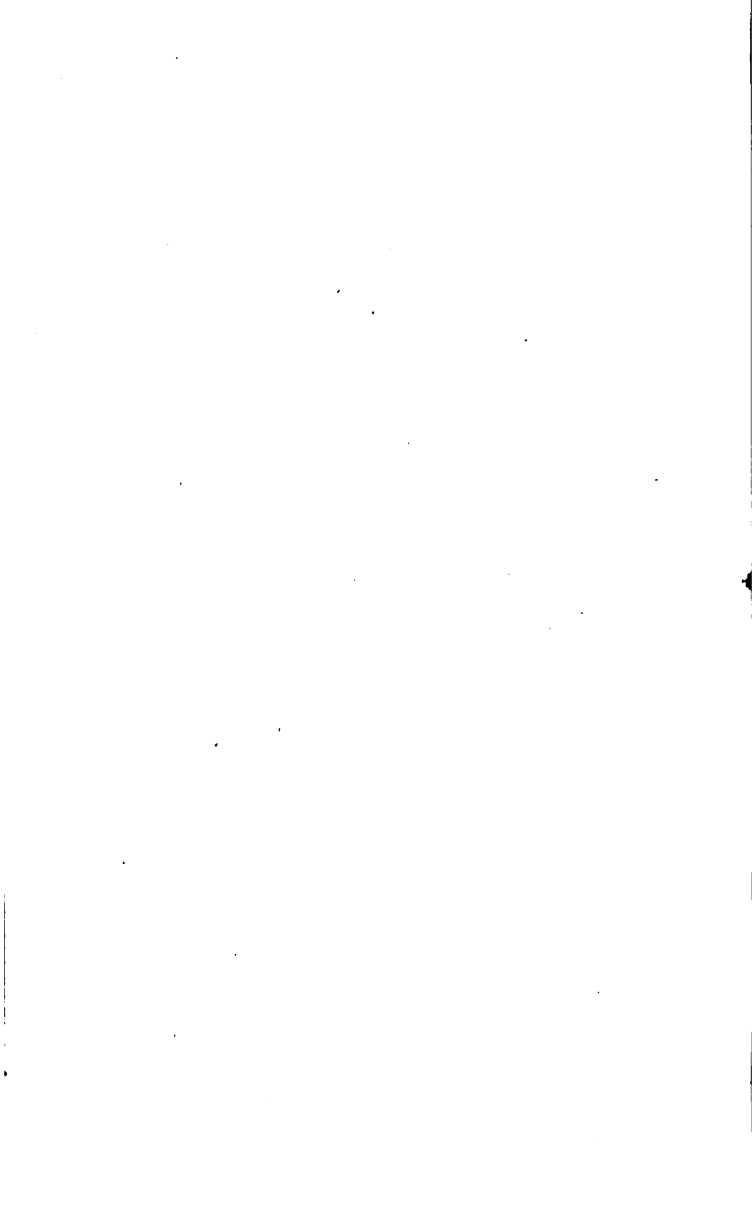
surrendered by a straw—All that piece or parcel of land lately staked off from, and forming part of, a certain close called Back Garth, situate in the township of Timble Great aforesaid, containing in length from east to west 9 yards, and in width from north to south 8 yards, bounded on the north and west by the remainder of the said Back Garth, on the east by the dwelling-house of William Jeffrey, and on the south by the Otley and Fewston Road, together with all rights, etc., to the said piece or parcel of land belonging—to the use and behoof of the said William Jackson, Wilks Ward and William Holmes, and Michael Wood, as such trustees as aforesaid, their heirs and assigns for ever. And they are admitted.”

The Robinson Library and Free School

Is situate off the northern side of the road, in the centre of the village, and is a substantial building of stone, covered with purple slate. The entrance is by three steps into a small porch, with a stone seat on each side. On the pediment is inscribed, in gilt letters, “THE ROBINSON LIBRARY AND FREE SCHOOL, BUILT 1891.” On each side of the entrance is a Tudoristic window of three lights, glazed with plate-glass. At the east end is a projection, formed of three sides of an octagon, pierced with three lights. Owing to the nature of the ground on which it stands,



THE ROBINSON LIBRARY AND FREE SCHOOL.



the back of the building is much higher than the front, and is consequently two storeys in height. In the upper is four windows, in the lower, two, and two doors leading into store rooms. The land at the back, about half an acre in extent (the site of the ancient Tarn), has been drained, graded, and had shrubs planted along the sides of the fences. The central portion is set apart as a playground for the children and youthful villagers. After passing through the porch in front, we enter the vestibule. On the left is the Library (15 feet by 12 feet, and 11 feet 6 inches in height), furnished with seats on the sides, and shelves of pitch pine for the books; the fittings throughout are composed of this kind of timber. On one of the shelves is a small stuffed alligator, from Florida, brought over by the founder, and presented to the institution. On the shelves are upwards of 600 volumes of well-selected books. On the right of the entrance is the Committee Room, of similar size to the Library. On the north wall hangs a portrait of the founder of the charity in a massive gilt frame, on which is inscribed: "Presented by Mrs. Gill, 1890." On his right hand is a portrait of his friend, Dr. Robert Collyer, of New York. The Reading Room is behind the Library, and is lighted by two windows from the north. It is larger and higher than the front rooms, and contains, beside the requisite seats and large central table, two bagatelle boards and a pianoforte, presented to the institution by a nephew of the founder, Mr. J. Dearden,

Leeds. The Schoolroom immediately adjoining is of equal size and height, and separated from it by a wooden partition; which can be removed when required, and the two thrown together, forming a large room well adapted for public meetings, concerts, for festive or recreative purposes, or the dance, when the youth of Timble meet—

“ Now advancing, now retreating,
To swift notes in cadence beating,
Glance their many twinkling feet.”

While a platform in front of the east window is well adapted for speakers, lecturers, singers, or musicians.

The motives for the building and endowment of this institution are thus stated in the Minute Book of the Trustees.

THE ROBINSON LIBRARY AND FREE SCHOOL.

This Institution has been built and endowed at the cost of Robinson Gill, of New York, America, and is intended for the free use of the inhabitants of the Townships of Timble Great, Timble Little, and the Hamlets of High and Low Snowden, in the northern part of the township of Askwith.

It has entered into the heart of Mr. Gill to carry out this good and useful work, as a memorial of his maternal ancestors, the Robinsons, who for a period of about two centuries, dating from 1590, were owners and occupiers of Swinsty Hall, and who during that time ranked as one of the leading families in the Washburn valley.

Building operations were commenced in 1890 (after much difficulty in procuring a site), on a very favourable spot on the Tarn, obtained by favour of the Lord of the Manor. The total cost of the building was £861 8s. od. The cost of books was upwards of £100. The total outlay, including building, drainage, grading, fence wall, books, and furnishing, amounted to £1,100. The sum provided for endowment is £2,000, which the donor wishes to be invested in land, so as to produce an income of £60 per annum.

Mrs. Ellen Elizabeth Barnes was appointed first schoolmistress and librarian, at a salary of £40 per annum, October 7th, 1892.

Opening of a Library and Free School at Timble.

One of the most important and beneficial days in the history of Timble was the 2nd of August, 1892, when the new public building, consisting of School, Library and Concert Hall, was opened and formally dedicated to the public of Timble and its neighbourhood. This opening ceremony has been so well described in the columns of the *Wharfedale and Airedale Observer* newspaper that we give the report in its entirety, for the simple reason that we think it cannot be mended, and that any alteration made therein would be for the worse.

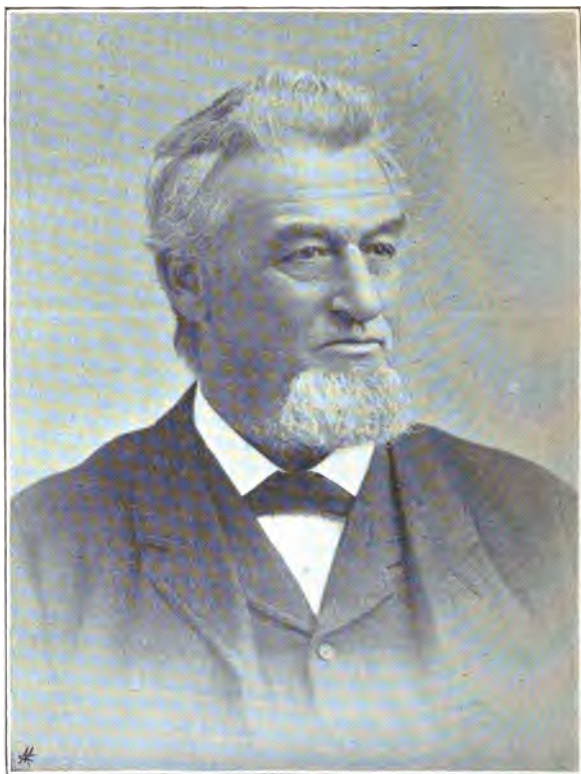
Timble, that pretty little village which nestles so snugly amongst the sheltering trees

after you have braved the bleak winds in crossing Snowden Moor, is in the happy position of possessing a Library and Free School, which has been built, furnished and endowed at the sole expense of Mr. Robinson Gill, of New York, and formerly a resident in the locality. The formal opening, which took place last Tuesday, had been delayed in order that the donor and his friend (the Rev. Dr. Collyer, another local worthy) might take an active part therein, and it was due to the presence of those gentlemen that people were attracted to quiet little Timble from various parts. From Otley a numerous contingent was present, while personal friends also put in an appearance from Ilkley, Leeds, Morley, Guiseley, Burley, and other places. The feast was being celebrated also, and this fact, together with the opening and dedication of the Library and Free School to the villagers, made the event one of unusual importance, and in the ages to come it will stand out as one of the reddest of red letter days in the history of the township. The Guiseley Band was in attendance, and discoursed sweet music at intervals, both before and after the ceremony, previous to recording which we made a tour of inspection of the new building. Those of our readers who know Timble, will remember that in front of the village inn was formerly a stagnant, and very often an offensive, pond, frequently used as the last resting place of cats and dogs. This has been drained and neatly laid out, and now forms the site of the Library and School.

DESCRIPTION OF THE BUILDING.

The style of architecture is rather of a picturesque than ornate character, and reminds one of the old English style, that is so much admired by the cultured taste of the present time, for it is especially in harmony with village life and scenery. Externally, there is an open porch, with seats on each side, where the rustic swain can sit by the side of the village maiden, and tell her once again "the old, old story." Here, too, the rural patriarch can sit with his long "churchwarden" and meditate upon the stirring scenes of his youth, and compare the "good old times" with the now better ones, though not always with satisfactory results to the latter, according to his thinking. He must perforce admit, however, that his present surroundings compare favourably with the pestilential quagmire of his early days, and that the plentiful supply of pure water is more satisfactory than the scarce and doubtful liquid he used to carry from the village well. The entrance hall, with its doors, dadoes, and floor of good old English oak, gives access to the various rooms. Facing you, as we enter, are the doors leading into the reading room and bagatelle room, over which is the appropriate motto: "Honour to whom honour is due," very neatly written by Mr. F. Mann, son of Mr. T. Mann, of Burley, who has executed the contract for the painting very satisfactorily, as, indeed, have all the other contractors. The door to the left leads into the Library, which is fitted up with drawers,

cupboards and book-cases, with a neat arrangement for raising or lowering each shelf to the height required. On the opposite side of the entrance hall is the Committee or Ante-room, out of which a door leads on to the platform of the large room. Here is hung a capital life-like portrait, in oils, of Mr. Gill, the donor. The Bagatelle and Reading Rooms are divided by a movable flush-panelled partition, which can be taken down, so as to make them into one large room 40 feet by 16 feet, for lectures, concerts, etc., and the partition can be converted into tea tables. At one end of the room, in a recess built in the form of a large bay window, is the platform. Each room is provided with special means of ventilation, with inlets on either side, and outlets conducted into the exhaust ventilating turret upon the roof; outlet flues are also built into the chimney stacks. Each room has an open fireplace, with oak overmantels and tiled slabs and hearths, and the general appearance of the rooms is one of cheerfulness and comfort. There is ample storage room in the basement, which contains sink, set-pot, etc.; and the general arrangement of the building is most complete and convenient. The contractors are as follows:—Masons: Messrs. J. & W. Dickinson, Timble; joiner: Mr. H. Procter, Otley; plasterers: Messrs. Chaffer, Otley; plumbers: Messrs. Suttle & Son, Otley; slaters: Messrs. Thornton, Otley; painter: Mr. T. Mann, Burley; and the works have been designed and carried out under the super-



MR. ROBINSON GILL.

intendence of Mr. A. Marshall, of Otley.

Having now described the building, let us now present our readers with a few facts concerning

MR. ROBINSON GILL,

The gentleman who has been so generous as to build and endow this Library and School. They have been specially written for us by the Rev. Dr. Collyer, and are as follows :—

Robinson, the fourth son of William and Elizabeth Robinson Gill, was born at Blubberhouses December 17th, 1829, in a cottage where those villas stand now you see on the other side of Washburn as you go down Otley Hill. There was a row of cottages there in those days standing on a terrace, where the folks lived who worked in the great factory ; and the Gills lived in the best of these. But at one end of the row, the foreman, Thomas Scotson, had a house of some dignity, thick clad with ivy, where sparrows nested in great numbers, and made a cheerful racket on summer mornings, which is still heard by an old man far away in time and space ; and another house stood at the western end of the terrace, which seemed to our young eyes a very grand place indeed. It had a bow window, framed in roses, and there Michael Robinson lived, who was the manager of the factory, and a man of mark, who had risen from the ranks. He was son of Thomas Robinson, the blacksmith, whose smithy stood near the Old Toll Gate, but he could not “thoil” the hammer and anvil, and took to

his schooling to such a good purpose, that, when Colbeck & Co. wanted someone to bring the water from the westward to the new overshot wheel—a very delicate and difficult bit of work—"that lad o' Robinson's" took the contract, and did his work so well that the Company held on to him, as to a man to tie to; and when Colbeck & Co. failed, and the property passed into the hands of the Craven Bank, in Skipton, the whole management of the factory and estate passed into his hands. He also was a man whose memoir would be well worth a place in this gallery, if there was one left who could tell the story; but the gravestone near the door in Fewston churchyard, and, it may be, some memories among the elders of Salem Chapel, in Otley, where he ended his days, is the sum of what may be said now about a very remarkable man in his day.

William Gill was a stone mason, born of a line of stone masons, which reaches back by evidence and tradition 200 years, and how much further no man knows. They were living in Grantley and Sawley, hard by Ripon, in the early time; but Matthew Gill, the great grandsire, moved up the water to Pateley Bridge, where his son Edward became somewhat eminent as the head mason for Squire Yorke, when he built his new hall at Beverley, 1815-20; and Edward also built the new Church at Pateley in 1826-7.

But William, when the time came, must be his own man, and so he trudged over "Nowtmoor" to Blubberhouses, where work

was astir around the factory and farms in 1815; and with the work found a wife also, Elizabeth Robinson, who was of kin, by clear descent to Henry Robinson, of Swinsty Hall, on the Washburn, "the best man in Fuyston," as we are informed by Edward Fairfax, the poet, in his "Discourse of witchcraft." It was in 1815 they set out together as husband and wife; but when the thirties began to chime, the good wife and mother was still a woman of a fine presence, as my memory runs, and with a gentle and sunny heart, from which laughter rippled easily, but made not much noise.

And there was a Meeting House in those times on Hardisty Hill, and a Sunday School, in which Mr. Gill had the main care of us for a long spell, and was a deacon also of the Church to the end of his life, about 1836. It was of the Congregational order, but there was no settled minister. The preachers were usually students from Airedale College, who got ten shillings and sixpence for the Sunday, and were very well cared for beside by fine old John Pullan and his wife, at the Manor House, for that was what we call over here the "Ministers' Tavern;" and even to a boy of ten or so, there would be now or then a bright young fellow who could win him to listen; but the most of them are only seen now in the mists of time as young men very much alike, wearing what we call "white chokers," which held their heads well up above the listeners, for those were the days of whalebone pads. Yet all were glad—father,

mother and children—when Mr. Hastie came over from Otley, because he had something to say that a boy could understand; perhaps it was for the reason that the time comes soon when you cannot catch even young birds with chaff, and Mr. Hastie brought us wheat.

But the great caretaker for the Sunday School was Mr. Gill, and we gave him enough to do, as Heaven only knows. He was a quiet man, from whose heart no laughter is now remembered; a staunch Puritan of the old School, who might well have been a deacon in the Chapel of Captain Freeman, of the Ironsides, built on Greenhow Hill, after the great stand made by the Commons against the King; a man who feared God in the devout fashion of the old Puritan manhood, and then found no room for any other fear, for when he was quite worn out with age and toil, and near to death, they wanted to watch with him where he lodged then, in the grim old keep at Knaresborough, well cared for by his son, but he said: "Nay, nay, I have t' best of all watchers—the Lord that slumbers not, nor sleeps." So he had his way, and was found one morning asleep in *Him*.

So here is the man and woman who have to maintain the home, and raise the children, four sons and two daughters. The sunny hearted mother, and steadfast father of the old Puritan type, and the home is there on the terrace first, and then at Hing-an-End, as you go to Thruscross, whence, in 1840, they move to Gill Beck, where a bit of land is rented, and, in 1844, to a farm under the cold shoulder

of Snowden, where the sun makes no haste to rise, a farm which brought no coin but much care, for the savings of a life time were left there, and there the bright and brave mother died, her work well done.

But in these years, the four sons, Edward and Edwin, Nelson and Robinson, must be taught the father's craft, because the 200 years we have heard of lay within their life, and they must keep step with the master builders who had gone before ; and the elders in Timble still remember how they would walk in silence, Indian file, to and from their work, the old man at the head, and Robinson the last in the procession. And they followed in the father's footsteps in all other ways that were staunch and true let us say, to the pounds sterling and the stone wall well laid ; but Robinson favoured his mother rather than his father, in spirit and temper, and the yeomen of Swinsty Hall.

His grandfather, Jonathan Robinson, of that house, was a mighty man of his inches, and they were many, measure him as you would ; a man with a spring and vigour in him when he was bent on going "across lots" to a feast or a frolic, which would lift him over a five-barred "yatt" like a bird, they say, and he was rather fond of going to the feasts and frolics of the old tenor. He was a famous player, also, in the old Saxon game of "knur and spell," of which one game is still held in memory, when, being pushed to the wall, he made thirteen score at one strike, while David Spence, his comrade,

cried: "Weel worth thee heart, Jonathan; we hev 'em now." Well, Robinson was a chip off this fine old block. An out-door and game-loving quality was in the marrow of his bones; and the last of the sons, he was also the most stalwart of them, and took to the games and frolics of the country side, as a young water-fowl takes to the water. Meanwhile they all got their bit of schooling also, as well as the training in the craft they must follow. Edward, the eldest, went to the school kept more than 60 years ago by Master Schofield, close to the old smithy at Blubberhouses, a memory curiously verified to the writer of this paper by reason of a Shrove Tuesday, when the snow had fallen deep, and there was no hope of his getting home for the pancakes on his five-year-old legs; so Neddy took the child on his back, and set him down on his own doorstep; and now it falls out by the chance of a quiet morning this memory returns in a flash on a Shrove Tuesday, with the snow falling softly on this great city so far away.

Robinson went early to a dame school at West End, then to Willie Hardy, at Blubberhouses, and to Edward Marshall, at Timble, able teachers, both. He still holds them in grateful memory, though they were rather apt to search for the springs of learning in boys, as, on the prairie lands of the West, those who have "the gift" search for springs of water—with a hazel-rod. The result was that he got along so well under the rule and ruler of his masters so as to be able to teach a night

school by-and-bye, for the handful who would come to him and had a mind to learn.

But the rather stern and austere rule of the father did not suit the spirit and temper of his sons, and least of all, that of the youngest, the mother's boy. He would fain have him follow close in his footsteps by the hearth and altar, only to find he was not the old man over again, but a new man of the type of the Robinson's, of Swinsty Hall, and this brought about him the trouble we must all deal with somehow, when one of the boys is neither wild nor wayward in any mean or low sense, but is as the Esau to the Jacob, with a will and a way of his own, frank and generous, and open-hearted. Robinson had this nature by his birthright, and was neither to hold nor bind by the strict and stern rules the good old man would impose; so the day came rather early when he found he must go out into the great busy world over the Moor, and, like Harry Wynd, in the story, "fight for his own hand." He was not free of his time then by some two or three years, but a well-grown young fellow, and well taught, while hands were wanted at the Bramhope Tunnel then under way, and there he got work, and in a week earned his first pound sterling as his own man, a treasure so tremendous, to his thinking, that he carried it over the Moor in his hand, in the instant dread that the robbers must be lying in wait for him in the way; but he got home safely, and gave it to his mother, with what pride we can imagine, who were once mother's boy, and struck such fortune.

But more was meant than met the eye when the lad went over the Moor after that pound sterling. "The long mechanic pacing to and fro" in the home land of the north, by Ure, and Nidd, and Washburn, was to terminate for good and all, and a new life to open for them in this new world.

Edward emigrated in 1850, and found work to do at once in Brooklyn, the sister City of New York. Robinson followed him in 1851, and worked as journeyman for two years, when the elder brother, who had started a business on his own account, took him in as partner in 1853. But Edward's health began to fail him, and he died in 1855, leaving the business in Robinson's hands, who managed the yard alone until 1862, with a foreman, to whom, during two years, he gave a third interest.

He had married, in 1856, Hannah Thorpe, a bonnie Yorkshire lass from Huddersfield, of the same sunny make as his mother was, and a help-meet to be proud of, therefore, and glad for, all his life.

In 1862, he opened a new stone yard in Troy, on the Hudson River, and moved there with his family. Sold out the Brooklyn yard a year after, but took hold of it again in 1867, when the firm became "Gill and Baird," which continued twenty-one years, in which time another yard was opened on the East River in New York, and now the whole business is in the hands of Robinson Gill & Sons. The firm employ from 150 to 300 men, the business averaging three

hundred thousand dollars a year, and the pay rolls running from ten to twenty thousand dollars a month. The wages of the stone-cutters are four dollars and a half a day, and of the other men from two dollars to three and a half a day. Mr. Gill is proud of this also in his modest way, that when the Stone Cutters' Association was organized in New York nine years ago, he was elected president, and has been elected every year since then. It is a proof of the confidence the whole fellow craft has in the man as an employer for almost forty years. They know how fair he has been with them, and honourable in all ways, counting their interests one with his own, and cherishing the fellow-feeling for them, which is not always found in those who have risen from the ranks.

In 1886, Mr. Gill was elected President of the Dime Savings Bank in Brooklyn, where he lives, and, last year, of the Harlem River Bank, where his great stone yard stands; and of this he is also proud in his quiet way, and the more because he dropped no fly into the waters, fishing for the dignity, nor thought of it; but he was the one man in sight whose character and standing was sterling of worth, and his prudence and sagacity so eminent, that his calling and election took care of itself. So the staunch old fellow, with the bright good mother, is revealed in the making of the man, and the founder of the Library and School in the old home place. Honesty of life and purpose was not merely the best policy in William Gill; it was the living

fibre which bound him to God and man. Every penny to him was a God's penny, and bore the mint mark of his integrity in the earning and the spending; and now, as it was with the father, so is it with the son, not one questionable dollar will be found in what Mr. Gill hides within the good foundation.

THE OPENING CEREMONY.

This was commenced shortly after two o'clock, by which time the village had quite an animated appearance. The large room was filled to its utmost capacity, and some were unable to secure admission at all. On the platform were Mr. Robinson Gill (who presided), the Rev. Dr. Collyer, Mr. T. G. Dawson, Mr. A. Marshall, Mr. H. Barker, Mr. W. Smith, Mr. Councillor Laycock (Leeds), Mr. Dodgson (Leeds), and others. Miss Annie Field, of Boston, and Miss Sarah Horne Jewett, also an American, two ladies who had come long distances, in order to hear Dr. Collyer, were in the room, and amongst others were Mr. Aaron Gill, Mr. W. Gill (Burley), Mr. W. Weegmann, Mr. Metcalfe, Mr. George Taylor (Askwith), Mr. W. Deans (Ilkley), Mr. E. Barret (Otley), Mr. A. Renton (Otley), Mr. T. Mann (Burley), Mr. F. Patrick (Otley), Mr. George Dickinson, Mr. David Lister, Mr. Joseph Holmes, Mr. Elijah Wood, Mr. Joseph Lister, Mr. Joseph Spence, Mr. Jonathan Spence, and the five trustees, Messrs. John M. Bramley, George Holmes, Joseph Dibb, John Dickinson, and Thomas Procter.

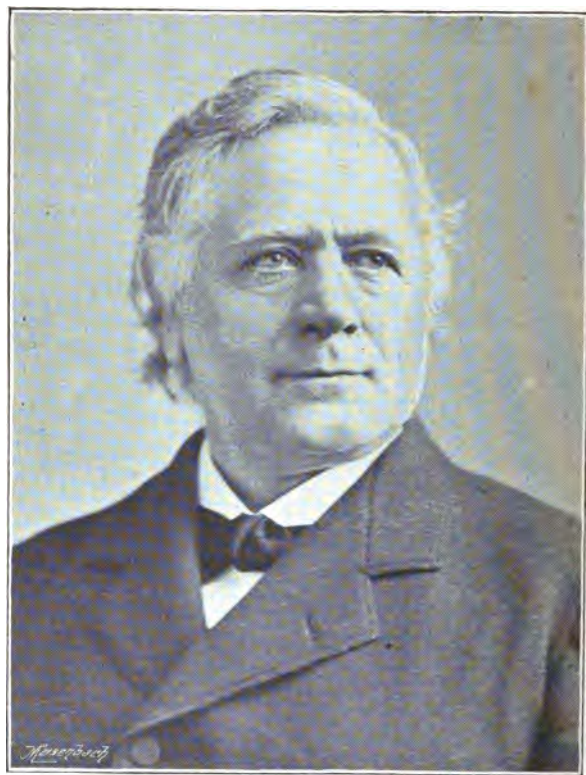
THE CHAIRMAN, who was cordially greeted on rising, said: Ladies, gentlemen, and friends—it gives me great pleasure to meet you on this occasion, to open the new Library and Free School. I have looked forward to this event with many pleasant, as well as some anxious thoughts, for years past, knowing that sickness, death, or some other unforeseen event, might interfere and prevent the final consummation of the object which I had so much desired to see brought to a successful termination. It is now about ten years since I first conceived the idea of establishing a Library and Free School at Timble, but I did not make my intentions known until I was over in England three years ago. At that time I started the idea into life, and since then have made the progress which you see here to-day, thanks to the good and efficient help of the Board of Trustees, who have been diligent and faithful in their duty, as the evidence before you will testify. It may seem strange to some that I look upon Timble as my native village, not having been born in Timble, neither having ever lived in the village. But in explanation I would say that I came to live in the township of Timble in 1840, when I was ten years of age. At that time I commenced attending school at Timble, and continued for two or three seasons. The school was taught by William Hardisty during my first term, and afterwards by Edward Marshall, who, no doubt, was the best schoolmaster that Timble ever had. And during those years I

became acquainted with "all the boys that were schoolboys then," not only in Timble, but in Snowden, Swinsty, Fewston, and the surrounding district. That acquaintance and friendship grew up with us all until I was twenty-one years of age, when I left England and went to America in 1851. In addition to the early attachment to my school-fellows, I was often regaled with stories and anecdotes, told to me by the older inhabitants of the village, relating to my maternal ancestors, viz., the Robinson family, of Swinsty Hall, who owned and occupied that estate for between two and three hundred years, and of which family my mother was a direct descendant, and, for the perpetuity of whose name, I was called Robinson. I felt, therefore, that by the establishment of this Library and Free School, it might stand as a memorial of a very dear and kind old mother and her family, as well as be a perpetual mark of my respect and esteem of the people of the village and the surrounding country. This much, I think, is enough for me to say in explanation of the purpose which prompted me in the establishing of this School and Library. Although now forty-one years have passed away, during part of that time my family continued to live around this district, and I was kept posted up, by frequent letters, of every event of any importance that occurred from time to time. But as the years rolled by, they one by one have all passed away. Some years before they were all gone, I found a new correspondent, and his frequent and

always interesting and pleasant letters have kept me as familiar with the current events that have taken place in the neighbourhood, as if I were still living around the village of Timble, and his assistance and helpfulness to me in carrying out every part of this enterprise have been of unspeakable advantage to me from the beginning to the present time. I refer to that very excellent letter writer, the registrar and mason of your village, John Dickinson. (Cheers.) Having now arrived at the completion of the building, and procured a good fair stock of books with which to start the library, the next thing to be done is to get a good and suitable teacher for the school, and I hope you may be as successful in that as you have been in the other matters, as there is nothing in connection with this enterprise of more importance than that of securing a suitable female teacher for the school. After that is done, the people in the district must take a live interest in the matter, if they wish for success, by organizing singing classes, dancing classes, debating societies, and other attractions that are harmless and interesting, and which have a tendency to develop and enlighten the mind, and make life more pleasant and cheerful. Now that you have a suitable building, each of the classes can have one evening a week for their special use, and another class some other evening for their special use, and by that means all may be accommodated; and in a few years Timble may stand up the equal, or the superior, of any village in the West

Riding of Yorkshire, in point of cultivation and intelligence. (Cheers.) But in order to do this you must be diligent workers, one and all remembering the old adage, that God helps those who help themselves. I do not feel it to be my duty to make any lengthy remarks upon this occasion, as the time can be much better occupied by those who will follow me. Yet, in conclusion, I feel that I must make a remark or two on the changes that have taken place. The Timble of forty or fifty years ago, and the Timble of to-day are not the same. Now I find it peopled mostly with those who were then children, and with many who have since been born, whilst those who at that time were heads of families have nearly all passed away. There are some, however, living and present with us to-day, who will remember the evenings when we used to gather around the house and shop of the village blacksmith to hear and tell the news of those "good old days," for although we did not have the advantages and comforts which this building will afford to the present and future generations, yet we enjoyed those gatherings very much, and many of the events that took place there, and the stories told there, remain indelibly impressed upon the minds of those who heard them. Speaking of the village blacksmith, and the blacksmith's shop, reminds me we have a blacksmith with us to-day—(cheers)—the ringing of whose anvil has made music in the ears and gladness in the hearts of the people of two continents. He is said to be a good blacksmith, but he is





DR. ROBERT COLLYER.

a much better preacher, as well as a poet and author. (Cheers.) I need not name him; you all know him, and you all respect him, and you all feel as I feel, pleased and honoured by his presence with us to-day. The Rev. Dr. Collyer will now address you. (Prolonged cheering.)

DR. COLLYER'S rising was the signal for a hearty burst of applause, he said: I cannot begin better than begin as Robinson began just now, by saying ladies, gentlemen, and dear friends. I need hardly tell you how glad I am to come here to-day with your old friend and mine, Robinson Gill, and to say some words to you about this gift of a Free Library and School he is to deliver into your hands. When he told me of his purpose to do this, about two years ago, I said I should like to go over with him to the dedication, and I think he said "that would be splendid." But perhaps he went a little too far; still, since then, this has been the understanding, that I should do, perhaps, the main part of the talking, because that is in my line, as the doing is Robinson's, and has been these many years. But there was another reason for my crossing the Atlantic this summer, besides my deep regard for this man you raised, and my sense of the worth of his gift. I was drawn to these bonnie dales of the Wharfe and Washburn again, where my early memories belong, and a lot of my love, that I might look upon them once more in any case, and see a few old friends, before I take to the chimney corner for good and all—if I am

spared—as old men will and must. I said “these bonnie dales,” while the land I love to look on in this Washburndale is that you can see when you stand on the crest of Otley Hill. But my old friend and yours will tell you another story. It is a great many years now since I first heard of him over there in America; and, as I found we were living only some 800 miles apart, I took the first chance I could get to go and see him in Troy Town, where his home was in those days and his business. It fell out also that this was not long after I had been over here on my first visit, and I thought we should be quite of one mind about what we loved best to remember, but I soon found out I was mistaken, for it was here in Timble that his choicest memories lay, and the love which he had nourished through all the years of his absence from his native land. And so it was very much with us as if two young men should talk about their sweet-hearts. (Laughter.) I wanted to take all the time telling about mine, while Robinson was thinking about his own. So I found my old home nest on the Washburn was all well enough to him, and the places and people I had seen were not to be forgotten, but, all the same, I found that when he got his turn to tell his story this was the sum and substance of it, that they could not hold a candle—sixteen to the pound if you will—to Timble—(laughter and applause)—and the folks he had known here, when the rim of heaven came down on the moors, and Otley was the true capital of the kingdom. (Cheers.) So it

was, I do assure you, when I first found him in his home on the Hudson River, and so it has been through all these years, when we would meet now and then to have a crack about the old places and the old times. And as you may easily guess, who know him as I do, how it was that his love for his old home gave birth to the happy dream, that if ever he was able, please God, he would do something for the place which would be well worth the doing, and would keep his memory green among you, and the memory of the Gills and Robinsons, his good fore-elders, through the centuries yet unborn. It is on this errand he comes over the sea, to give this proof of his long-enduring love for the place and the people into your hands, that he may make the happy dream come true. And as he does this, I can think of no words more fitting to crown the gift and the day than those that King Athelstan inscribed on his charter to St. John of Beverley—

“All as free I make thee
As heart can wish, or eye may see.”

So free I know your friend and mine would make this Library and School, while the waters that run down the slopes of your hills seek the Washburn. And may I not say again, for the truth's sake, that no man here can feel more truly than I do the worth of this gift, for a good many reasons, of which this is one: that if it had lain to my lot to be a wise master builder and merchant of good sound stone, instead of a minister, and to make money enough and to spare in such a calling,

I am not over sure that I should have had the grace to give it, as he has done, in this wise and good fashion. Because that was a truth to be remembered, which a man told me once in our city, who was worth his millions, that it was not fair to expect the man who had made a great deal of money to give a great deal also, when the hand that grasps is so apt to take the strength away from the hand which ought to give. So the end is a sort of paralysis, and the left hand did not know what the right hand was doing for bounty and blessing, because there was nothing to tell; but this the truth about the lad you raised, and sent forth to seek his fortune in the new world, and to find it, that he has made a noble and true use of both hands, keeping them strong and able for the getting and the giving, or we should not be here to witness the deed of gift of the self same tenure as that by which Beverley still holds her lands from the ancient king; and that you can hold by, also, so long as our great mother England holds her own against the world to win. And may I not say once more that there is a touch of fitness, as it seems to me, in this mention of the king's gift, because it is through him we first find Timble—not directly as yet, but by a fair inference, for he was the monarch who gave Otley, with her outlying vills, to His Grace Archbishop Wulstan, of York. And when we find these vills by name in the great Domesday Book, more than a hundred years after, Timble is among them; while by the tenure of this gift, as I take it, some of

you belong to that dear old mother Church in Otley; though I should feel a little delicate about asking how often you go there, and may guess that as many as do not go to the Chapel here, go with a regularity to the Church at Fewston, which makes the heart of the Vicar down there to sing for joy. I said there is a fitness in the mention, and it lies just here: that it is through Athelstan we may fairly infer that the forefathers of these hamlets have lived on their land nine hundred years at the least, and how much longer we cannot say. That through all these centuries you have been minding the sheep and kine, and seeing to the crops, while the mothers of the hamlets and the wives have kept the fires burning on the hearth-stones, and been busy tending the children, looking well after the butter and eggs, the bees and honey, and, in times that are now no more, the spinning and weaving of the flax and the wool. It is interesting also to remember that there was a time, about five hundred years ago, when these homes of yours came out of the woods, as we say, into the clearing; and then you stand there, shall I say, with a feather in your cap. It was then His Majesty, the Richard of that day, was hard up for money, as their majesties in those times were very apt to be, and sent the hat round in 1379 to collect a poll tax through this West Riding, and all over England, from all persons of the age of 16 and upwards who were able to pay, only leaving out the mere mendicants. Well, the tax list stands to the

two Timbles, with which we have to include Fewston, and, it may be, Blubberhouses, but you number nine more than Otley, your mother town, while the great town of Leeds now only numbers thirty-two more than you number of those who are able to pay their stint; and you leave towns like Baildon, Guiseley, Yeadon, and a great many more far behind you. There is another thing worth the mention in connection with the countryside. Families are here and hereabouts who can still answer to their names. The Hardestys are here then, and the Bramleys; the Pullans are here and at Thruscross, and Richard and Robert Gyll are here to drop their money into His Majesty's money-box. And so I love to believe that one tap root of the good family tree struck down in Timble before it was transplanted to the northward of Ripon, and that when they returned in the forties, it was as the swallows return in the spring to their nests under the eaves of the houses at the foot of Hardisty Hill in my childhood. Now, I mind how a good old divine says that some preachers in his time used a text as riders use a horse-block, from which, being well mounted, they go prancing away, and never come in sight of it any more, and my text is this library and school. But I have said this word, not as a mere *pre-ramble*, as a good woman in Illinois used to call what we said before we came to the marrow of the matter, for it is of the marrow of the matter I would speak, so that we may all be proud of what we have been, or of what

we are. The story I have tried to tell about Timble is the story of our English heart of oak, wherever we may turn in these quiet green lands of England, or men like Robinson Gill and myself would have no mother-land to be so proud of, and so glad for, as we are in our far away land over the sea. It is from this manhood and womanhood, which strikes its roots so deep in the soil, and keeps the fires burning on the hearth-stones, from father to son, and mother to daughter, through a thousand years, and six hundred added to the thousand, in many a place like this of yours, that the strong and broad-based life has been drawn which makes our mother-land so strong to do and to be, as she is to-day. The quiet green lands, wherever you may turn, in which families may be found, as I doubt not they may be found on these head waters of the Washburn, who, if you did but know the story of your long-enduring life, could say to those who boast that they came over with the Conqueror, "that is all very well if you have done anything beside; but we were here when you came." We are of the old English heart of oak, and you have had to draw on us for the timber to build up our England into her might and masterhood. The great centres of our common life use up men, but we raise them first, and send them forth to live for England, and to die. This blended manhood of the old Saxon and the Dane tells the story ever since we began to clear away the timber and let in the sun, to break up the land by the streams, and sow the seed for all the

harvests that were to be, to raise the sheep and kine, and to fight the wolves when they came howling about the folds in the bitter weather long ago, and to raise the children to stay on the land, or to wander away, but still to reveal the strength of the grand old stock wherever they may be. Now, of this we may well be proud, alike for the great old mother, and the noble daughter, the Republic across the sea, which was started from the great old home, and is still ready to confess that "blood is thicker than water," whose citizens now count no day more happy than that on which they can come here to see the sacred places which belong to us all; from tiny spots like these which have brought Robinson Gill and myself over so often, just to fill our hearts with the sight of them once more; from these to the grand historic cities, the matchless minsters, the old monasteries like Bolton and Fountains, lovely in decay, and to worship with something of the Druid's heart in us under the shadow of the wonderful old oaks; to see the primrose spring in sunny nooks, and to hear the lark raining down his melody out of heaven; to visit the graves of those whose genius and heroism has stormed our hearts in the far-away homes, and whose story we have told to our children, who will come in their turns on the old sweet errand. These are the strands that draw us over the sea, because "blood is thicker than water;" and no matter about old fights and frays, the love holds well and strong, and, as we say on our side of the

sea, "Don't you forget it." And hereby hangs a tale I must tell you. I was only fourteen when I left this dale for good and all, crossing Denton Moor, very seldom to look at the old place in the twelve years I lived down there in Ilkley, before I went to the new world. So they were only a boy's memories I bore away with me in 1850; but they grew very dear and sweet when I was far away from the old home nest, dearer and sweeter than you home-keeping men and women can well imagine. I longed to see the old place once more, and it was a boy's longing which lay in the heart of a busy man so far away. I wanted to find a throstle's nest again in a holly bush above the Washburn, and to find a trout I had left under an arch on the old mill goit, and to drink at one well I knew of where the water came down a beryl brown from the moors. I would tell my children there was no water in all the world so good as that; it was as sweet to me as the water in the well of Bethlehem hard by the gate was to David in the old time. And when I came back after all those years, with my heart in my mouth, as we say, I found a throstle's nest in the holly bank, and there was a trout under the arch in the old goit, and the rascal shook his tail at me as if he would say, "No, you don't." Yes, and the well was there, where I drunk to my heart's content of the beryl brown water. So it was twenty-seven years ago, and so it was with the lad you raised. "Thou art so near and yet so far" has been the burden of our song; but now he comes, not alone to refresh

the dear old memories, he comes to pay a debt. He wants to make the old home of his boyhood rich by this good treasure of the Library and the School. He wants, if he may, to make this old strong life of yours nobler and finer than it has ever been, for love of the old home by Snowden, which is silent now, and of his old neighbours and friends, and for your children's children. I feel quite free to say that if he had come here thinking of the eminence he had won among us as a merchant and a man, to look down upon you, and bid you look up to him with bared heads for what he has done and will do, I, for one, should not care to be in his company to-day. He comes as Robinson Gill, the lad you raised, holding on to the old strong life he bore away forty-one years ago. He knows the sturdy independence of our old Yorkshire life like a book, and of this dale within old Yorkshire; and just for love's sake of the old home and kindred, and his sense of the worth this will be to you, he holds out his hands with this gift in them, which you will take, he knows, in the spirit of the giver. And now, what shall I say about the worth of this gift, waiving the worth of the School, on which I have no time to dwell and no great need, because you must know that as well as I do, and what this School may be to the children of these homes all about us to-day? What about the Library which you will have henceforth for your own? Here again I must begin with a story which belongs to our Washburndale first of all, and then to the greater world.

It is more than sixty years since a small boy down there on the stream had a whole penny to spend, but how he got it Heaven only knows. He spent it in a book. It was "Whittington and his cat," that lovely child's romance. It is the first book he remembers, and it set him dreaming of a wonderful world over Otley Hill, and is still so deep in him, and so dear, that when he goes up Highgate Hill, above London, he always looks for the stone on which they say little Dick sat down and heard the bells ring him back again to be Lord Mayor of London ; and the old man who has now reached the snow-line of our life wants nobody to tell him that the story is not true, because he knows better, and knows how

" It mingles with the life's ethereal part,
Sweetening and gathering sweetness evermore,
By Nature's franchise disenthralled of time."

Then I watch him growing into his teens, as I look through the glass of Time, and notice that he is devouring all the books he can lay his hands on—the lives of good men and women, the histories of the three great nations which came into his hands, Greece, Rome and England, and the stories of the saints and heroes in the old family bible he was holding in his hands, "with thoughts and feelings far too deep for tears," only the other day. These, and the marvellous dream of John Bunyan, he was reciting to his grand-children one day this winter, how Christian fought Apollyon and beat him, and then went marching on like a soldier to the celestial city, when the little maid said suddenly : " Grand-

pa, did he march with the *millinery* step?" and he answered, "No, my dear, I have seen a good many pilgrims march with that step, but he was not one of them." The books the boy read he cannot tell me now. When he got loose from the mill on the Washburn, where the infernal old bell hung which rung him up at six in the morning and out at eight in the evening—one man who was working there had a copy of Shakespere—he read Shakespere right through and then began again, and the great story of England's life told there stays with him still, as the essence and spirit of the mother-land within the letter. Another man brought Burns along, and how that great singer of the people stormed his heart, and set him singing to the burden of "The Cottar's Saturday Night," of "Scots wha ha' wi' Wallace bled," and of "A man's a man for a' that," time would fail to tell you. So the years rolled on there and over the moor, and still he must be reading all the books he could lay his hands on. But this was still his trouble, poor fellow, that he had to read from hand to mouth, because there was no library he could ransack like this you will have in the course of time in Timble, so he only read what he could borrow, and then buy with the scanty wages of those times among the forties. Well, he is an old man now, in a great busy city far away from here, and with a very noble Church on his hands and heart, for which he must care the best he can. But when he thinks of those times and of that eternal hunger, many a time he says

to himself: "If I could only have had all the schooling and all the books I wanted to nurture the big busy brain I inherited from my mother, I might have done something I have failed to do," because it is as wise old Sam Johnson said, the first eighteen years of this ingathering from what he found in books are worth all the years besides in a man's life. This is the story, and it opens the way to the first thing I want to say about the worth of this Library you will have and hold henceforth, to make finer and more noble your strong life. You have raised, and will raise, just such boys and girls to match them; and you may be as sure of this, as that the sun is in the heavens, they will say what I noticed the landward folks said in New England last summer, when some curious thing was told them, "I want to know." They will want to know to another purpose, and here in this Library they will find their answer. Your friend has taken care to have an Encyclopædia in his treasure house, the best to begin with I know of. I have another—the Britannica. I got it as the volumes came out. We were as far as F, when one of those fellows I think of came into my library one day and saw it. "Hurrah!" he said, "You have got the Britannica, and so have I—all there is of them yet—and I have read mine so far, and know all human knowledge now down to F." So it will be, and so it has been, so far as the hunger to know went; but there was no bread to meet and stay the hunger like this we will have now. I was thinking of that one day

this spring, as I wondered what I should say to you, and found myself glancing far away across the ocean to this Churchyard down the dale, where you have borne the fathers of these hamlets and farms to their rest through more than 600 years that we know of. And as I glanced, I thought of what might have been, and then those lines of the great elegy came to me, and I said—

“Perhaps in *yon* neglected spot is laid
Some heart once pregnant with celestial fire ;
Hands which the rod of empire might have swayed,
Or waked to ecstasy the living lyre.

“But knowledge unto them her ample page,
Rich with the spoils of time, did ne’er unroll ;
Chill penury repress their noble rage,
And froze the genial currents of the soul.”

Then I said, as surely as the sun shines in the heavens, there will be children born of this old strong life of yours, with this eager hunger in them for books, and what books can give them ; that I recall with a touch of pathetic pity for the boy whose story I have told you in a few words. One, and then another, who cannot and will not follow in the footsteps of the forty generations in these hollows and in these hills to till the lands, and follow the simple rustic trades which have contented their fathers, they will “want to know,” and will drink deep at the fountain opened to them here, and then they will go away to find deeper and more ample springs ; while, from this old strong life made good to them, some will write books which may make the world their debtor, or be men of action which will

send their names ringing down the ages, or of an eloquence—

“Able the listening senates to command,
And read *their* history in a nation's eyes.”

And then the time may come when the world which speaks our tongue will ask where this man was born, or that woman; and our children's children may come in pilgrimage to the old farmstead or cottage where they were born, as we flock now to Windermere, or to Haworth, ten miles away. “It is only a day dream,” you may say, but I answer, in one way or another it is sure to come true, if you stand true to your trust in this Free School and Library. The ample brains and strong jetting hearts can all be traced back finally to a true life on the land. When I was here in 1883, I talked with a woman who was raised on a farm down the lane here, who was a small girl in Willie Hardie's school when I was a small boy there; and speaking to her of the beauty of our dale, she said, “Yes, indeed, many a time when I come to the top of Otley Hill, on my way home fro' t' market, I stop a bit, and say ‘it's bonniest place in all t' world.’” That good woman belongs to the motherhood of which poets are born in God's good time, though it may take five hundred years for aught we know to bring forth the poet that can sing the song she has felt as she stood on Otley Hill. But I think the line is safe, for she told me she was the mother of eleven children. It is but the intimation of the birth I would tell. It is not to-day or to-morrow, but this is the law of our life, and

here is the leaven which will do its share to leaven the whole lump of the life which has been waiting to do something more than to raise strong and broad-loined men for England, and women to match them, ever since Athelstan said "Take Otley and her vills into your care, and see what you can make of them, for our England and for our God," to His Grace of York. But it is not of this alone I would speak, or of this as the main matter. That old man who was telling us just now of his boyhood and early life—the myself—but so curiously another self now, that I seem to stand away and watch him trotting over the bridge holding on to his father's finger, and trying to find the face in a three-quarter moon. He must drop the transparent mask, and tell you what the books have done for him in all these years, quite apart from any worth which may lie in a better fortune and lot. Yes, and apart from any worth which may have come to others in such striving as he has made good to be worth his salt, about which the less said the better all round, where boasting is excluded by the law of grace; there are some supreme blessings also, of which this is neither the time nor the place to speak. But after these the books come first and last, as we say; and all the time they were the delight of the earlier years, they are still my delight as I near the milestone which Moses, the man of God, set down at three score and ten. And I think sometimes that if I win my way to a better world, or get there by God's great bounty, and

find no books, or any treasure they stand for, I shall want to come back and haunt my library. It was a hard lot down there in the big factory, but such books as I could find then, and such rambles and games as there was time for beside, were so good to me that this is the upshot of them now. All the memories outside the mill are pleasant memories, and so full of sunshine, that when I come back home I wonder what has become of the sunshine of the summers I remember far away back among the thirties. It must have got lost, or emigrated to America. And I was not a model boy. A gentleman wrote me from this side of the water a few years ago, to ask if I was myself, and when I assured him I was, among many things he told me was this: That standing with his aunt one day, she said, "There goes that Collyer lad; he's a taastril." But the books were of worth to me then to help along a bit, I think, in the right direction, because they were good books which fell into my hands, and all the seed did not fall on thorny ground. I began to dream dreams at my work in the mill about what I would like to do when I was a man; and this was not to be a sailor, or to drive a stage-coach, but to go into a book shop, only that seemed far beyond my reach. So these children will read and dream here on the farms, read good books, that will move their hearts and nourish their minds, as when one looks at his face in a glass they will catch something of a likeness to what they read, while they are only bent

on the delight of it and the charm. So, if I may give you one bit of good counsel, it is this : Let them browse and welcome, when the tasks in the school and on the farm are done, and do not trouble them over much with "thou shalt not," touching what they want to read, for the wise old Roman well said, "Books are the food of youth, as they are the delight of old age, the delight of the home, and no hindrance to thee when thou goest abroad." So it was in my own childhood and youth, and so it has been through all these years, which have made me an old man, and lifted me once more over the sea with my old friend. That was a hard life for some years, also, after I left my old mother-land ; but the delight lay still in reading and, when Sunday came round, in going to preach in the Methodist Chapels all about my home in Pennsylvania, for nothing a Sunday, and find myself. But I remember no day when I was too tired to read, or failed to read some book, while I was still working at the anvil, until I was 36 years old, when the bell rung for me to quit that work, and take this up, which I am doing still. And those days also are all full of pleasant memories, hard as they were, because they are full of the sunshine books can give. And you must bear with me for saying this, because I know of no other way to tell you what books may do for us all, but to tell you what they have done for me, and how well I know that they

"Are a substantial world, both pure and good,
And round these, with tendrils strong as flesh and blood,
Our pastime and our happiness *can* grow."

It was a dream of many years, too, that sometime I should be able to buy all the books I loved, and have them for my own. It was many years before I could do this, with a house full of children, a workman's wages, and the dear house-mother, who rests in heaven now, to look sharp after me, and see that I did not spend beyond the line of pay-as-you-go for the household's need. But sometimes I would trench on the margin, and then I would smuggle my book in on the sly. Once I hid one under a bush in the garden all night, and a few days after, when my guardian saw it in the book-case, and said, "Why, father, when did you get that book?" I answered, "Why, I have had that some time now." But she found me out, or else I confessed, I do not quite remember. That long dream has come true. I number my books by thousands now, and otherwise am not a poor man; but the best wealth still lies in my library of the things we can touch and see, and I know what Shakespere means when he makes one say—

"These books I prize beyond my dukedom."

You may think it is a matter of sour grapes, but, indeed, it is true, that I would not give my library to-day for some dukedoms I know of; if, for the rest of my life, I must be deprived of their matchless companionship. There they are, waiting my return home, the dear and good companions, the best in all the world, and of all time. The grand old bible and sound commentary I took with me over the sea forty-two years ago, the master-book

of the master-races now on the planet, and the noblest of all time, and the divinest, and the stored inspiration of holy men of the old time and of the new time in divine things. These are waiting to help me in my ministry in the imperial city in which I dwell, and the poets will sing to me again who have sung since singers began, and the far-reaching story of our human life is there in the motherland, and in the great Republic, and right round the world, right down to Zee, or, as you say, to Zed. The noble story-tellers are all there that I care for most, and I care for many; and how I do enjoy a good story. The good Sir Walter will be there, whose stories Bishop Stanley kept on one shelf apart with Shakespere and the bible. George Elliot will be there, and I shall read *Silas Marner*, and take him to my heart again, when for the gold he had buried in the floor and lost, he found his little child lying right on the spot with the hair of spun gold, and the little child led him back to a new faith in humanity and in God. Dickens will be there, and touch me with laughter and tears; and the noble woman and her sisters will be there, who lived on the cold shoulder of the hill over Aire, and touch me as with strong and stormful music. And so they will wait for me, the great company I cannot number here or name. There, beside the dear human friendships and kinships, and the work which is still to be done, lie the treasures of the last years, as I dwell on the snow-line of our human life. You have the choicest and best

of these books I set such store on in this library, which is only as when you plant a slip from the nursery to-day, which will grow into a noble and a fruitful tree in this day of small things. But my delight, and the delight of all readers, may and will be yours. You will take many of these volumes to your homes, and then into your hearts. Some of them you will want for your own, when you have read them, and find out the secret I have found, that to "ware brass," as we say, for books is one of the best investments we can make. Last evening I glanced at the company gathered here to your long-time feast, and my thought of what can be done with the old strong life was confirmed as I noticed the good heads of the new generation, and the eager, gleaming eyes. We elder folks have had our day; the youth comes to the front, and takes hold here, as everywhere, to run the world. The youth will take these farms and these long-enduring homes, and in the homes a new race will come forth to man the world, touched by the finer life books can bring us. It is much finer now than when I first remember; it will grow finer still.

"For, believe me, through the ages one increasing purpose runs,
And the thoughts of men are widened in the process of the
suns."

Fifty-five or six years ago I went with another lad to the Leeds Summer Fair. We must start bright and early, and could not go to sleep for fear we should not get away in good time; and all my life the picture has stayed with me of the sunrise as we took the slope of

Snowden Bank; a faint blush to the eastward, first changing to russet gold, and then the splendid sunrise at last pouring over Timble and all the land, smiting the crops and touching the moors with the glory of the clear morning. It has come back to me for my last word. The sunlight of a new day touches these reaches of the bonnie dale. It is no mere dream, it is God's truth, because you will stand true to the Library and the School, and the light of these will be the light of life; may be, I was going to say—*will* be, I *must* say—to all who know what treasure lies in good books, and the chance open to all now for the beginning of a good education close to these homes.

MR. JOHN M. BRAMLEY proposed, and MR. A. MARSHALL seconded, a vote of thanks to Dr. Collyer for his eloquent and able address. The motion was carried with enthusiasm.

MR. T. G. DAWSON next proposed a cordial vote of thanks to Mr. Gill, whose noble gift he was sure would be highly appreciated, since it would afford benefits and facilities which they could not have enjoyed previously. Mr. Gill, he understood, was a native of that district, though not of Timble, and had made his mark in the world. Unlike many whom he had known who had been successful in life, Mr. Gill had not forgotten the scenes of his youth, nor was he ashamed of the rock out of which he was hewn. On the contrary, he had performed a generous act, and in such an unpretentious way which made it all the more

acceptable. The gift was one which was calculated to further the best interests of the inhabitants, and they could best thank Mr. Gill by making the best possible use of it. The proposal was enthusiastically received, all present signifying their assent by rising to their feet.

THE CHAIRMAN, in replying, said it would be impossible to express his feelings upon that occasion for the gratitude they had manifested. They must take the will for the deed. The building was there for them solely, and he hoped it would prove an everlasting blessing and benefit to the neighbourhood. The idea to do this had been in his mind for the last ten years; it had been to him like a pet child, but now he placed it in their hands. He hoped they would treat it well, and use it for their own benefit. The money it had cost, and the money which would be required to give it lasting life had been provided; but for that he did not want to be made a demi-god, all he wanted was to see them derive benefit and improvement from it. His life would not now last long, but he hoped that benefits derived from it hereafter would be many and lasting. The formal dedication of the building would be dispensed with. He had already placed it in the hands of five trustees, who would be responsible for its management. The Library and School were free—free in every sense of the term; but there must be a code of rules to regulate affairs, otherwise they would not be able to get along smoothly. These rules he had not

yet had time to look into, but hoped soon to be able to do so. The trustees would be elected by the inhabitants of the places for which the building was intended, not all at one time, but in batches ; and if at any time a bad trustee should be elected, the residents must take care, when his term expired, not to re-elect him. Even when they had got a good teacher appointed, the thing would not run itself, it would require attention and management by the trustees. He now handed the place and its contents to the trustees, and he hoped they would do their duty, and that the inhabitants generally would help them to make the Library and School a success.

COUNCILLOR LAYCOCK (Leeds) spoke of the pleasure Dr. Collyer's address had afforded him, and remarked on the importance of young men being in earnest in all they did. It was thoroughness and perseverance that had brought Dr. Collyer and Mr. Gill to their present positions, and he was sure what they had done others could do.

MR. GEORGE METCALFE, MR. WILLIAM GILL, and another gentleman, also expressed themselves as being delighted with Dr. Collyer's address, and the noble gift of the donor, after which the Band struck up the National Anthem and the proceedings closed.

Timble Families :

POLAN, POLAYN, POLAYNE, PULLAYN,
PULLAYNE, PULLEINE, PULLEN, PULLAN.

The oldest, most numerous, and most widely spread of the families which have originated at Timble is that of Pulleyn. We find them here in the earliest known records, and they are here yet. In 1379 we find "Isabella Polayn" in such an affluent position as to employ two servants—John, her servant, and Agnes, her servant—each paying poll tax. She is the only one in the parish having a servant. No pedigree of the early members of the family has been compiled that we are aware of. Many members of it appear to have been of official importance in their day, the stewards and trusted agents of the religious houses, at that time the great land owners in the country.

On October 15th, 10th Henry VII., A.D. 1493, Marmaduke, the abbot, and the convent of Fountains, granted to John Pulleyn an annuity or fee of 16s. 8d., and annually the dress or uniform of one of the gentlemen officers of the said monastery ; also meat and drink for himself and servants, and the use of a chamber there, with stable, pasturage, and hay for two horses whenever needed, in consideration of his just and able management of the affairs of the said monastery.—*Walbran's Memorials of Fountains*, p. 231.

In 1455 the same convent paid Ralph Pullan £10 13s. 4d. for thirty-six quarters of malt.

December 4th, 1459, William, Archbishop of York, issued a precept to John, abbot of Fountains, to veil Johanna, relict of Ralph Pullan.

In 1539, Ralph Pulleyn was deputy steward of the lands of Fountains, at a yearly fee of 66s. 8d.; at the same time another Ralph Pulleyn was steward of the courts of the said monastery at a similar annual stipend of 66s. 8d.; at the same time John Pulleyn was steward for Mount Grace Priory for all their lands in Yorkshire; George Pulleyn was bailiff of Copgrove for the Hospitallers of Ribstone; Henry Pullan was a Vicar Choral of the Collegiate Church of Hemingbrough; and John Pulleyn was Incumbent of the Free Chapel of St. Mary Magdalene, of Allerton Mauleverer, near Whixley. At the time of the dissolution of the monastery, Ninian Pulleyn held a moiety of the Grange of Morker, immediately adjoining to Fountains, and we find them connected with that house at a much earlier date. William Poleyn held a messuage and lands of the abbot of Fountains in Hartwith-with-Winsley in 1358.

Of the two branches of this family located at Scotton and Killinghall we say nothing, as their pedigrees are given in the Herald's Visitations, but none of them are of an earlier date than those we find in Timble.

Many of them entered the Church and found preferment in their own neighbourhood, thus—Sir John Pulleyne was Vicar of Fewston from 1545 to 1583, and his successor was Henry Pulleyne, from 1583 to 1591. John

Pulleyne was Vicar of Ilkley from 1554 to 1586.

When we come to a more recent and continuous record, the parish register of Fewston, we find them on the first page, a numerous family located in different places, as the following extracts will prove:—

“1594. Willm. Pulleyne and Jane Heathfield were married 12th Nov.

“1594. — dau. of George Pulleyne, was bap.——

“1595. John, s. of Willm. Pulleyne, was bap.——

“1595. Old Pulleyne wyfe was bur. 7th of——

“1595. Mary, d. of John Pulleyne, was bap. 24th——

“1597. Jennett, d. of Edward Pulleyne, was bap.——

“1599. John Pulleyne, s. of John Pulleyne, was bap. 14th June.

“1602. The wyfe of Henry Pulleyne was buried 12th April.

“1604. Richard Pulleyne and Olive Slingsby were married by Licence the 24th of May.”

Thus we have half-a-dozen families of the same name all living in the parish at the same time. The incompleteness of the entries given is caused by the worn and dilapidated state of the first pages of the Fewston parish register, besides the entries very seldom give the place of abode of the parties, so among so many at this distance of time it is almost impossible to refer each to its proper locality without the help of wills and private documents.

A family of this name, of good social position in Timble, had an affection for the name of Anthony, which was apparently used in every generation until the family became extinct, the last bearing the favourite name. The following may be taken as an imperfect outline of their pedigree:—

William Pulleine married Jane Heathfield Nov. 12th, 1594 (she was buried June 20th, 1611); had issue, John, Jane (1596), William (1600), and Anthony.

Anthony Pulleine, bap. 14th May, 1601, married Dorothy Jeffray, March 29th, 1628; amongst other issue had—

Anthony Pulleine, bap. 2nd March, 1644. We do not know who he married. His children were John (1668), Jane (1669), and William—(he was buried July 29th, 1679).

William Pulleine married Joan Gill, and had issue, William, bap. May 6th, 1678, buried June 1st, 1693, and

Anthony, bap. Feb. 12th, 1680, married Susanna, said to be niece of Henry Robinson, of Swinsty Hall, by whom he had three daughters—

Susanna, born 1710, married 1735, at Kirkby Malzeard, to William Simpson, of Haverah Park, died 1741.

Mary, born 1717, married 1740, to Thomas Parkinson, of Cragg Hall, died 1814.

Elizabeth, married first to Edward Yeates, of Padside, and after his decease to Stephen Parkinson, of Hardisty Hill.

Anthony Pulleyne died in 1728, and his widow in 1755, and his estate was subse-

quently divided amongst his three daughters.

The portion obtained by William Simpson was situate on the southern side of the village, and was probably the old home of the Pulleyn family. It was held by his descendants for four generations, but as they were never resident in the village we shall not particularize them. It was purchased from them, or their representative, about the year 1874, by Mr. George Holmes, the present owner and occupier. It is now a good, substantial dwelling, most pleasantly situated, and commanding a fine view of the opposite slope of Snowden, the lower portion of the valley of the Washburn, and the southern side of Wharfedale, down to Bramhope, Eccup, and Harewood. The old house was dated 16—, and was reputed to be the oldest dwelling in the township.

The portion obtained by Thomas Parkinson, by his marriage with Mary Pulleyn, was a homestead and farm situate on the north side of the village, of good quality, and the house in a pleasant spot, with an orchard in front. The Parkinsons were also non-resident, preferring Cragg Hall to Timble Great.* The family, however, held possession of the land until about the year 1870, when it was purchased by George Lister, who, having another

* Mary Pulleyn, one of the co-heiresses of Anthony Pulleyn, married Thomas Parkinson, of Cragg Hall, in 1740. In 1742, the following farm passed from the surviving trustee (Richard England) of Anthony Pulleyn, of Timble, to Thomas Parkinson, of Cragg Hall, and Mary, his wife. In 1755, the said Thomas Parkinson leased the farm to Joseph Stubbs, of Clifton, in the parish of Fewston, for eleven years, at an annual rent of £16.

homestead of his own adjacent, suffered this, with all the outbuildings, to fall into ruins. The house, from its style, has been built during the seventeenth century, but bears no date.

The portion acquired by Edward Yeates, and subsequently by Stephen Parkinson, has also been sold into another family, so that at present none of the representatives of Anthony Pulleyn hold any lands in Timble.

BREAKES.—This is the name of a family once numerous in Timble, but of which no trace at present remains. One of its female members is mentioned by Edward Fairfax in his *Dæmonologia* as an adept in the difficult lore of witchcraft. He says: "This sister of Thorp's wife is a daughter also of Jennit Dibb, married to one Breakes, of Timble. The woman is evil thought on for witchcraft, and a daughter of hers raised a report that her mother used, in a deep Gill at Timble, to meet with and confer with black things or spirits." This was in the year 1621-2. The family was certainly here at that time, and also before and long afterwards. In 1595, Thomas, son of Edward Breakes, was baptised at Fewston. In 1608, George Hardisty and Ann Breakes

It is thus described as—"The messuage house, and all other buildings, with several closes of land, called by the names of Dearbot, Croft, Croftland, Ladingland, Gibbing Ing, Gill Close, New Close, Longbarrow Close, Thorn Close, Thorn Butts, Longbarrow Sykes, Longbarrow, Slosh Butts, Goose-lands, Little Close, Yeates Park, and two garths, situate at Timble, in the parish of Fewston, and in the occupation of Thomas Robinson." Lease now in possession of Rev. Thomas Parkinson, of North Otterington.

were married. In 1612, Maud, daughter of William Breakes, was baptised. In 1617, John Breakes and Jennit Jeffray were married July 8th. 1625, Thomas Breakes had a child buried last of November. 1630, Edward Breakes, buried 28th November. 1642, Marie, daughter of John Breakes, baptised last of November. In 1651, John Breaks, of Bramley Head, was buried 25th January, and in 1652, John Breakes, of the Ridge End, was buried the last day of June.

HEARFIELD is another of the extinct names, the Fewston register being probably their only record. "1622, Old Hearfield wife, of Ellercar, buried 20th May. 1622, John Hearfield, buried 2nd January. 1617, Francis, son of Thomas Hearfield, baptised 2nd November." Other entries in the immediately following years record the baptism and burial of the children of Thomas Hearfield. Ellercar, the place of his abode, is now the residence of Jerome Thackwray, the Timble poet.

ILES was the name of a family resident in Timble during the 17th century. In 1602, John Iles had a child buried the 11th of June. 1605, William, son of John Iles, was buried on the 4th of June. 1613, Thomas, son of William Iles, baptised last of November. 1640, Frances, daughter of William Iles the younger, baptised 6th December. 1640, Ellen, daughter of Thomas Iles, baptised 15th December. The last extracts show that three families of that name were living in the parish at the same time.

In 1646, Anna Iles, widow, surrendered lands

in Timble to the use of Francis Hargrave, son of Marjorie Hargrave.

In 1672, William Iles and John Iles paid Hearth Tax in Timble-cum-Fewston.

Two families of this name, those of George and Samuel Iles, were living in the parish in 1708.

LONGFELLOW.—A family of this name came into the parish of Fewston early in the 17th century, and abode there for something over twenty years. They probably emigrated over the hill from Ilkley, and are, we suspect, distant relations of the American poet of that name. Anyhow, we offer the following extracts from the parish register as a slight contribution to the pedigree of the family :—

“1632. Thomas Longfellow and Katherine Fawkes, married 12th February.

“1647. Thomas Longfellow and Marie Whitelocke, married 18th of August.

“1648. A child of Thomas Longfellow, bur. 18th May.

“1649. Isabel, d. of Thomas Longfellow, bap. 21st April.

“1650. Thomas Longfellow's wife was buried 23rd March.

“1652. Marie, d. of Thomas Longfellow, bap. 28th Nov.

“1654. Margaret, d. of Thomas Longfellow, bap. 29th June.

“1656. Thomas, s. of Thomas Longfellow, bap. 26th June.

“1657. Thomas Longfellow, buried 2nd May.”

SAXTON.—This is another grand old his-

torical name, the owners of which were located for only about a quarter of a century in the parish. Whether related or not to Christopher Saxton, the celebrated chorographer, of Leeds, who died October 31st, 1587, we cannot say ; or of the Rev. Peter Saxton, Vicar of Leeds from 1646 to 1651, who was said to be born at or near Bramley. The following extracts are from the Fewston parish register :—

“ 1631. Jane, d. of John Saxton, bap. 14th Dec.

“ 1642. John, s. of Brian Saxton, bap. 21st Aug.

“ 1644. Brian, s. of Brian Saxton, bap. 23rd Feb.

“ 1647. William Mawson and Ann Saxton, marr. 31st Oct.

“ 1647. Isabel, d. of Brian Saxton, bap. 23rd March.

“ 1651. Marie, d. of Brian Saxton, bap. 24th March.

“ 1655. Elizabeth, d. of Brian Saxton, bap. 21st Dec.

“ 1659. William, s. of Brian Saxton, bap. 17th July.

“ 1664. Isabel and Jane, daughters of Brian Saxton, bap. 1st May.”

Samuel Saxton and Brian Saxton paid Hearth Tax in 1672.

HUDDLESTON.—This is another name now extinct in the parish. It appears in the register in 1638, when Jane, daughter of Christopher Huddleston, was baptised 8th July, and continues down to October 18th, 1718, when Mary, daughter of William Huddleston, was baptised.

BEECROFT.—This is one of the longest lived families in Timble; the name does not occur in the Poll Tax Roll of 1379, but may be found in nearly every document bearing on the subject since. The name occurs on the first pages of the parish register, and continues in a regular stream downward, and with the assistance of private documents, a pedigree of the family may be compiled to the present time, when any one connected with them shall have the will and ability to do so. We give only a few extracts showing their number at the beginning of the seventeenth century.

“1605. Ralph Bycroft was buried the 7th of Feb.

“1606. Isobel, d. of Rodger Bycroft, bap. 3rd Aug.

“1608. Old Beecroft wyfe was buried the 6th day of March.

“1608. George, s. of Richard Beecroft, bap. 8th of January.

“1609. William Beecroft and Margaret Spence mar. 18th May.

“1634. Richard, s. of Thomas Beecroft, bap. 13th Nov.

“1640. Thomas, s. of Thomas Beecroft, bap. 5th July.

“1642. Two children of Thomas Beecroft (lost on the moor) were buried the first of June.”

John Beecroft and Richard Beecroft paid Hearth Tax in 1672, the first for a house having one hearth, and the second for one having two hearths.

JEFFREY is a name of frequent occurrence in Timble; they came early and continued long; they dwelt not only in Timble, but all over the parish of Fewston, and far beyond its borders, in such numbers that we cannot discriminate them into families; nor are they yet extinct, though much fewer in number than formerly. A few extracts from the Fewston parish register will show their numbers about the commencement of the seventeenth century. "1611, Old Jeffray wife, of Tymble, bur. 13th day of Nov. 1614, Old Jeffray wife, of the Trees, buried 8th of April. 1614, Jane, d. of William Jeffray, bap. 28th August. 1614, Richard Jeffray, buried 7th of Oct. 1614, Mary, d. of William Jeffray, bap. 19th Feb. 1617, John Breakes and Jennet Jeffray married 8th July. 1617, Charles Holm and Agnes Jeffray married 5th August." And so the family life of birth, marriage and death rolls on for centuries. A few years ago they were the most numerous and wealthy family in Timble, now there is not one of the name living in the village, and their property has passed into other hands. Over the door of a house (once used as a public house), near the Wesleyan Chapel, is inscribed W.^{J.I.}_{1778.} the initials of one of the Jeffray family, and probably the only relic remaining of them in the village. Recently this house was the property of Michael Wood, who resided in it for fifty years.

INGLESANT.—This is another name that came into Timble to stay for a short time,

then suddenly disappear. Our knowledge of it is derived from the parish register :—

“ 1608. John, s. of Stephen Inglesant, bap. 6th December.

“ 1609. The wife of John Inglesant was bur. 12th Feb.

“ 1612. John Inglesant, bur. 6th Sep.

“ 1612. Widdow Inglesant de Tymble was bur. the 1st March.”

HARDISTY, OR HARDISTIE.—This is one of the family names that appear to have sprung up on the Forest soil, flourished through all the period of recorded time, and is yet remaining in the land. It has a war-like sound with it, like the battle-cry of an old Norse sea-king, or Danish warrior. In the Poll Tax Roll, 1379, we find in Villa de Tymble John de Hardofsty and Stephen de Hardolfsty, each paying 4d. In 1504, among the witnesses in the great Plumpton law suit, are John Hardistie and Stephen Hardistie, yeomen ; and in 1651, William Hardistie was one of the selected trustees, and Arthur Hardistie one of the feofees for purchasing the manorial rights of the Forest of Knaresborough. In 1672, Steven Hardisty, Francis Hardisty, William Hardisty, senr., and William Hardisty, paid hearth tax in Timble-cum-Fewston. In the Fewston parish register the name appears amongst the first, and continues down to the present time. In 1596 there were six families of that name residing in the parish of Fewston. In 1616, death was busy amongst them, as will be seen by the following extracts from the register :—

"1616. Christopher Hardisty had a child buried 21st April.

"1616. Samuel Hardisty was buried 26th December.

"1616. John Hardisty was buried 27th December.

"1616. Jane Hardisty was buried 23rd Jan.

"1617. Christopher Hardisty had a wench buried 13th July."

The two following extracts are indicative of their social status in the community:—

"1601. William Slingsby and Anne Hardisty were married by a lycence the first of ffebruarie.

"1602. William Hardistie and ffraunces ffrankland were married by a lycence the 21st of October.

"1639. Christopher Hardistie, of Hardistie Hill, buried 3rd of May."

This place is in Fewston township, but whether they gave name to the hill, or received their name from it, is not certain, though our opinion is that the personal name is much older than the place name.

"1674, Aprill. Alice Hardestie, of the Nabs, that virtuous matron, was buried the sixteenth day." (As if to mark its importance, this entry is made in large German text.)

When the Forest of Knaresborough was enclosed in 1778, Joshua Hardisty had twenty-one allotments awarded to him, chiefly in Norwood.

It would require a volume to deal fully with this numerous and widely-spread family—from

“Steven Hardolfsty,” of the Poll Tax Roll, to one of its present offshoots, Mr. Robert Hardisty Skaife, editor of “Kirkby’s Inquest, Knight’s Fees, and the Nominum Villarum for Yorkshire” (1867), and “The Register of the Guild of Corpus Christi, York” (1871), for the Surtees Society; and the translation of the Yorkshire portion of the Domesday Survey. The notes appended to these works are a rich mine of materials for the Yorkshire genealogist and local historian.

THACKWRAY, OR THACKERY.—William de Thackwra occurs in the Poll Tax Roll in 1379, and as it is a place name, we shall derive his name from the place of his abode so called in Timble—Thack-wray—the rough ground where the *thack* or *thatch* grew, in this instance by the side of the brook Washburn. We also find two of that name in the adjoining township of Thruscross, and one more in that of Askwith. Although they might receive their name, and have their first place of abode in Timble, they do not appear to have increased and multiplied upon the land like many families, yet they may claim a small share in the lustre of a name of world-wide reputation now. From the evidence of the parish register they were here in 1594, 1659, 1662, 1666, 1667, 1673. John Thackray and Ann Cowburn were married October 1st, 1667. On April 13th, 1673, John, son of Francis Thackray, was baptised. On October 3rd, 1686, Joseph Thackray and Ann Richardson were married, and on January 18th, 1696, Bryan Thackwray was buried. William

Thackray paid hearth tax in 1672. The name is not yet extinct.

LISTER.—This name is found but sparingly in our district, and that not in very early times. Robert Lyster occurs in 1617, Anthony Lyster in 1620, William Lyster in 1622. Edmund Lyster was buried in 1630, John Lyster in 1652. The wife of Miles Lister and his child were buried Jan. 23rd, 1654. Richard Lister and Elizabeth Hawkswell were married June 12th, 1660. Christopher, son of Miles Lister, was baptised July 20th, 1662. George, son of Richard Lister, was baptised Nov. 12th, 1665. Margaret, daughter of Richard Lister, of Pace House, was baptised Oct. 20th, 1672. George Lister occurs on the Hearth Tax Roll in 1672. William Lister and Mary Smithson were married February 2nd, 1684. Mary, wife of William Lister, buried May 2nd, 1703. 1709, Elizabeth, daughter of George Lister, baptised 5th July. 1709, March, Eliz., wife of Richard Lister, buried 8th day. 1715, June, Richard Lister buried 12th day. This family has played a considerable part in the village life of Timble within living memory. James Lister, said to have been born in London (how, or why he became transplanted to Timble is not known), was twice married, and had issue by each wife. Henry, the eldest son, was a man of great strength, thrift, and industry, by which he acquired wealth in the worst of times. John, David, and George, other sons, settled as farmers in Timble, and were all fairly prosperous, especially George, who acquired

considerable landed property. James, another son, kept the public house in the village for upwards of fifty years. He lived to be ninety years of age—a rare instance of longevity in an innkeeper! His greatest pleasure was to relate tales of the olden time, when he was young. Besides being innkeeper and farmer, he killed nearly all the fat pigs in the neighbourhood in the winter season. He died in 1877, and was succeeded at the inn by his son, James Lister, who also died in 1885, and the inn is now kept by his widow, Ann Lister. In personal appearance the Listers

“ Were of stature passing tall,
But sparely formed, and lean withal.”

The old stock are all dead, and none of their descendants now reside in the village, many of them having drifted off to the great towns, where they have attained to good positions. The sons of George yet hold considerable property here, and the qualification of three of the name of Lister, resident in Bradford, to vote for Parliamentary representatives in the Otley Division of the West Riding, is derived from property situate in Timble.

DICKINSON.—This name does not appear in the Poll Tax Roll for Timble. Some members of the family, however, held positions of great responsibility in the district in early times. In the reign of Henry VIII., William Dicconson, along with Thomas Pulleyn, were farmers of the king's waste in the Forest of Knaresborough, and in 1529 brought an action at law in the Duchy Court of Lancaster against the Prior of Bolton, for trespass

on the lead mine and lead ore, within the waste ground called Mongha-gill, and breach of decree. Again, in 1533, the same parties were plaintiffs in the same Court against the Abbot of Fountains, the Prior of Bolton, and others, on a disputed claim to lead mines in Knaresborough Forest, Craven Keld, Craven Cross, and Brimham.

Amongst the witnesses in the great Plumpton law suit, in 1504, are the names of six Dickinson's, of yeoman rank, so we may safely infer that they were all heads of families at that time. At the same period, Oliver Dickinson was the true and faithful attendant of Sir Robert Plumpton, and when beggary and imprisonment became the lot of his master, he accompanied him, and shared his captivity. This is shown by the following extract from the "Plumpton Correspondence," p. cxviij.

• "*Item*, that I, Sir Robert Plompton, knight, and Oliver Dickinson, my servant, hath paid unto Hew Reding, the Keeper of the Counter in the Pailtre, and his wife, al manner of duties for meat, drinke, and fire, since the 12th day of May, the second yeare of our soveraigne Lord, King Henry the eight (1510), unto Midsomer eve the same yeare, 44s. 10d. And the foresaid Sir Robert Plumton cam untill the foresaid counter first the xxiiij day of Aprill, and paid for every maile of meate unto the foresaid xij day of May, iiij^d for himselfe, and ij^d for his servant. *Item*, the foresaid Sir Robert Plompton paid, by the hands of Oliver Dickinson, to the wife of the said Hew

Reding, the Thursday next after Mydsomer day, the same yeare, for his bed and his chamber, xx^s."

This family does not appear to have had any permanent residence in the parish of Fewston, as we find them only sparingly in the older register, as—"1658, John Dickinson, buried July 5th. 1659, John Simpson and Ann Dickinson married 10th July. 1659, William, son of Thomas Dickinson, baptised 19th Feb." They now appear to have gone to Bewerley, near Pateley Bridge, where Seth Dickinson resided for awhile, but returned again before the middle of the next century, as—"1745, John Dickinson and Mary Hardisty, both of this parish, were married 14th November. 1746, Elizabeth, daughter of John Dickinson, bap. May 11th. 1749, Charles, son of John Dickinson, bap. April 16th. 1756, Charles Dickinson, of Norwood, buried July 24th. 1756, Joshua, son of John Dickinson, bap. July 24th. John, born —, married April 12th, 1799, Elizabeth Mitchell." John, the elder, died in 1782, as the inventory of his goods is dated January 2nd, 1782.

One of the daughters married into the family of Andrew, of Crow Trees, in Birstwith. Joshua married, and had a son named Joshua, who settled at Stainburn, where he married, and brought up a family of many sons, one of whom, named Joshua, is now a farmer at Goldsborough, near Knaresborough.

John had two sons, John and Charles. John married a daughter of Joseph Ward, of Little Timble, and settled as a farmer there, occu-

pying a part of Swinsty Hall, where he died about the year 1860, leaving two daughters.

Charles, the younger son, married Mary, daughter of Joseph Holmes, of Timble, and became tenant of the farm yet held by his family, at that time belonging to the Fawkes's, of Farnley, but shortly afterwards purchased by John Bramley, of Norwood. Charles had a large family. Charles, born 1810; John, 1812, died 1875; Elizabeth, 1814; Mary, 1816; Joseph, 1818; William, 1821; George, 1824; Martha, 1827; David, 1829; and Mary, 1834. Only three of this numerous family now (1894) survive—George, David and Mary. Charles, John, George, David and Mary all have had issue more or less numerous, so that the family is not likely to become suddenly extinct.

YEATES.—A family of this name was resident in Timble for a considerable period, but they do not appear to have increased much in number, and the name only occurs at intervals in the parish register:—"1653, Richard Yates, of Timble, buried 25th of April. 1657, John Yates and Margaret Pulleine were married 22nd of October." John Yates paid hearth tax in Timble in 1672.

SMITH.—This name, which in some places exceeds all others in number, appears always to have been of rare occurrence in the parish of Fewston, and is seldom found in the register. We give two remarkable entries:—"1644, George Smith, of Timble, that good religious man, buried 25th June. 1651, Jane, daughter of John Smith, baptised June 25th."

Other two children of said John Smith were buried same day. In 1672, Robert Smith paid hearth tax for a dwelling with five hearths, a very large building for that day.

HOLMES.—The name of Holmes does not occur in the Poll Tax Roll for Timble, but in the Hearth Tax Roll, 1673, Thomas Holmes is the first man on the list, paying for one hearth, and he is the only one of his name. The name is not abundant in the early parish register, and then they were settled in Norwood:—"Nov. 5th, 1667, Edward Holmes and Marie Carre were married." An earlier entry is remarkable for its minute exactness: "Walter Holmes, sonne and heire of Rauph Holmes, of Bland Hill, was born upon the 13th day of Aprill, being Palme Sunday, and was christened on Maunday Thursday, being the 17th day of the same moneth, Ano. Dm., 1606." In more recent times they appear to have superseded the Pulleins, and the Jeffreys, and become the most numerous family in the village, and also planted themselves in the choicest situations.

About the beginning of the present century, Joseph Holmes was living at "Trees House," in Norwood, and soon afterwards removed to Timble. He married Ruth, sister of David Spence, of Timble, by whom he had a family of four sons and four daughters. The daughters were born at "Trees House," and the sons at Timble—the former were Christiana, who married John Ward, of Swinsty; Mary, who married Charles Dickinson, who settled at Timble, and was grandmother of

John Dickinson, present Registrar of Births and Deaths for the Fewston District; Ruth, who married William Jeffrey, one of the Timble family of that name, but who settled at Askwith; and Ann, who married William Horn, of Horsforth. The sons were, in order of birth, Joseph, who succeeded his father at the Timble home. He was a remarkable man for strength and endurance. As a long distance runner he had few equals, and at ordinary farm work he was a match for two common men. He was of medium size, strongly built, and possessed of a deep, strong voice. He once had occasion to visit Wakefield, and after walking to Leeds from Timble, in the early morning, a distance of sixteen miles, he had a race with a coach from Leeds to Wakefield. The contest was keen and close on both sides, but the coach having to stop for some purpose for a short time, Holmes was first into Wakefield, amid the cheers of the passengers. In times of snow it was a favourite amusement of his to find the track of a hare, and after raising *pussy* from her seat, he would give chase, and after a run of eight or ten miles rarely failed to secure his exhausted prey. On one occasion he was so close to the hare that she took the river Washburn, but Holmes plunged in after her up to the middle and caught her in mid-stream. Timble has been rather noted for poachers (as the preserves of Denton Park sometimes found to their cost), but Holmes was a poacher of an extraordinary class, which is not likely to find many imitators. Many

are the stories told of his reckless feats of strength and endurance; notwithstanding, he lived to be upwards of eighty years of age, and died about 1879. He married one of the Jeffrey family, and left a son and several daughters, who have all left the village; William, the second son, is the hero of "The Sizing Tin" story in our "Folk Lore." He married a Lister, was a cattle dealer and farmer, and had a numerous family, who have mostly migrated from their native village; Joseph, his eldest son, being the only one remaining at Timble. He lives close by the Chapel. His farm formerly belonged to the Jeffreys. John, the third son, married, and was a farmer at Swinsty, occupying the Nether Timble farm, now held by his son, Charles. Another son, George, lives in the new house at the east end of Timble village, and he, and Joseph above mentioned, are the only two of the name now resident in Timble. George, the youngest son of the old stock, was a shoemaker, and settled in Norwood. In his younger days he was remarkably fleet of foot, and a leader in all kinds of athletic sports; quite a central character in those rude early days. Many of his sayings, a mixture of wit and sarcasm, are still extant. He died many years ago.

SPENCE.—A family of this name has been settled for a long time in Timble. At what time they came, or where from, we have no information. George Spence paid hearth tax in Timble in 1672, and it is not unlikely that the name has remained in the village ever

since. In 1822, we find David Spence, tailor, in Baines's Directory. He appears to have been a man in advance of his time, intelligent and educated, and the only man in the village who took a newspaper; and during the long wars which culminated in Waterloo, the villagers used to assemble round and listen to David reading the latest news (weeks old) of Bonaparte and Wellington. David must also have been clever at his craft, as his business expanded, and he became the most popular tailor in the country side, his sons and apprentices going to work at all the farmers' houses round about, as was then the custom. The trade descended from father to son through a succession of Davids and Jonathans, until only one of the family, named Joseph, now remains in the village; and the greatest part of the trade has also departed, for machinery and the great wholesale houses have ruined the village tailor.

WARD.—This is another of the old family names of Timble, originating when and where we know not, but found here in very early times. In the parish register of Fewston we find:—"1605, Ellen, daughter of John Ward, was bap. 21st Oct. 1656, Hannah, daughter of Jeremie Ward, bap. 12th April. 1659, Jeremie, son of Jeremie Ward, bap. 26th Sep. 1670, Margaret, daughter of John Ward, bap. 24th April. 1678, April, Mary, daughter of Thomas Ward, bap. 6th day." Timble was the original home of the Ward family, of Hopper Lane, who migrated first to Fewston, and thence to Hopper Lane.

John Ward paid hearth tax in Timble in 1672. On the south side of the village is an old house, closely adjoining that of the Registrar of Births and Deaths, with a remarkably straight and tall sycamore tree in the garden, now occupied by Mr. Elijah Ward, the owner, who inherited it and the appurtenant farm from his father, Wilks Ward, who resided here until his death in 1867. It was devised to him by his uncle, Joseph Jeffrey. The present owner states that Joseph Jeffrey married one of the two daughters of the last Ingland of Timble, and had this house and farm as her portion. On the lintel of the door of this house is inscribed T.S. x 1683, and as we do not know whose initials they are, we will leave them as a *crux* for the next historian of Timble.

Jerome Thackwray, the Timble Poet.

Timble has a poet of its own, of such a primitive kind that his writings seem to carry us back to the beginning of things—at least to the beginning of poetry and song. A great authority has said that poets are born, not made, and our poet must have been born such, for art and learning have had no share in fashioning his song; quite an original, he does not give us back the echoes of other poets which he has read. He sings of himself, his youth and manhood, his joys and griefs, his early loves and blighted hopes. We will give only short extracts, as we have not his permission, and do not wish to violate his

copyright. He dwells in a lonely house, in a bleak, unsheltered spot called Ellercar, near the edge of the moorlands, where he hears, in their season, the whistle of the curlew, the song of the ring-ouzel and the mountain linnet. The whirring notes of the red grouse, and the sweet scent of the mountain heather, can be heard and felt around his home. But it is not of these he sings; it is of himself, and thus he begins with his own beginning—

I was born at a place called Timble Great,
 Very near to a gentleman's country seat ;
 It was during the time of making hay
 That I was brought to the light of day ;
 On that day we had a joyful home,
 And they said—" We'll call this lad Jerome."
 I was a fine lad, and thrived well,
 Oft times my mother these tales did tell.
 When I grew up, to school I was sent,
 Sometimes I miss'd, and sometimes I went ;
 And every time when I ran away,
 The master he paid me off next day ;
 I said—" School I'll leave, and work I'll seek,"
 I got a place at a shilling a week.
 And when my master did me engage
 He agreed to give me meat and wage.
 It was in the pleasant month of May,
 To set potatoes I went straightway ;
 I found that my labour was in vain,
 They were wash'd away by heavy rain.

Such is the commencement of the poem bearing the title of "The History of Jerome Thackwray, the Ivy House Poet," printed at Bradford in 1861. He goes on relating the events of his life in verse "without aid or tuition." His verse brightens as he thus describes the first object of his affections—

She was young, and the fairest of the fair ;
 No one on earth with her I could compare.

Many a time with her I took a walk,
 And many hours we spent in loving talk.
 I often used to dream of her at night ;
 When I was with her it was pure delight.
 She was the handsomest that ever I beheld,
 But my dream of love was soon to be dispell'd,
 For this fickle fair one proved to me unkind,
 Faithless and false, and changeable as the wind.

* * * * *

This pretty youthful girl, the day star of my life,
 Destroyed my peace by refusing to be my wife.
 So now I wander up and down, disconsolate and sad,
 This woman jilting almost drove me mad.

Was ever poor man in a more deplorable condition than this? Yet he survived all his troubles, and yet lives the happy father of a happy family.

Fawkes, of Farnley, in Timble.

September 13th, 1738. Ann Wilkinson, widow, Francis Fawkes, gent., and Christiana, his wife, surrendered one ancient building and ten acres of land, and also one messuage, one barn, and two acres of land, all in the village of Timble, to the use of the said Ann Wilkinson for life; remainder to the said Francis Fawkes and Christiana, his wife, for their lives, and the longer liver of them.

February 26th, 1794. Death of Francis Fawkes, Esq., seized of Scowe Hall, and hereditaments in Timble and elsewhere, when Walter Ramsden Hawksworth (who had taken the name of Walter Fawkes) was admitted to the said premises for life, etc.

March 11th, 1818. Be it remembered that Walter Fawkes, of Farnley Hall, Esquire (lately called Walter Ramsden Hawksworth),

the eldest son and heir of Walter Fawkes, late of Farnley Hall, Esquire, deceased (heretofore called Walter Hawksworth, and who was then of Hawksworth, in the County of York), and Francis Hawksworth Fawkes, of Farnley Hall aforesaid, eldest son and heir apparent of the said Walter Fawkes, with the intent to bar, dock, and destroy all estates tail, and all reversions and remainders thereupon expectant and depending of and in the messuages, etc., surrendered all messuages, etc., of them, the said Walter Fawkes and Francis Hawksworth Fawkes, within the several towns, townships, vills, hamlets, etc., of Norwood, Thruscross, Felliscliffe, Timble Great, Birstwith, Thornthwaite, and Kettle-sing; or in the parishes of Fewston and Hampsthwaite, or elsewhere in the Forest of Knaresborough, to the use of the said Walter Fawkes, his heirs and assigns for ever. Admission accordingly.

April 14th, 1819. The said Walter Fawkes surrendered a messuage or farm-house and several closes of land at Clifton-with-Norwood, in the parish of Fewston, to Richard Fountayne Wilson, Esq., in fee.

The said Walter Fawkes soon afterwards alienated in fee divers copyhold messuages in Timble Great and elsewhere.—*Knaresborough Court Rolls*.

The lands sold by Walter Fawkes in Great Timble were the farm, with homestead in the village, purchased by Mr. John Bramley, of Norwood, and now held by his grandson, Mr. Robinson Bramley; Jerome Thackwray's

farm, Timble Ings; and George Demain's farm, Timble Little.

The Village Water Supply.

Owing to its situation just on the upper edge of the Washburn water-shed, Timble village has no natural surface springs of water. To remedy this deficiency, the inhabitants were under the necessity of sinking wells, from which they drew their supply by means of the windlass and bucket. There are eight of these wells, some of them from 50 to 60 feet deep; many of them are enclosed in a dome of hewn ashler stone, in which to work the windlass, the covering being a pyramidal block, surmounted by a large stone ball. These are doubtless the oldest works of man in the village. These wells, with a large shallow pond, called "The Tarn," which covered a portion of the present library grounds, were the main sources of supply down to the middle of the present century. There is a public well, called "The Green Well," now hardly known, which in the old days, in times of drought, yielded a small supply, and great was the competition to get a small quantity of the precious fluid in early morning. Since the new supply was laid on, this well has been neglected, and now forms what may be truly called "The Green Bog."

When the Forest of Knaresborough was enclosed, in 1787, the Commissioners awarded, for the use of the inhabitants of Timble, the

water of a copious spring, which rises in a field called "Cop Hurst," about two miles west of the village. This great boon was neglected, and almost forgotten, until the year 1850, when an accidental search of the "Award" at Knaresborough again revealed the fact. The villagers, now alive to their own interests, combined, and worked with such determination, that in a short time, by means of open courses, and in some parts by stone drains, an abundant supply of pure soft water was brought into the centre of the village. Shortly afterwards, the present large stone troughs were fixed, chiefly at the cost of Mr. Christopher Jackson, of Otley, who had property in the village. This system worked fairly well for about thirty years, until the Rural Sanitary Authority found that the water was polluted in its course, a state of things which must be remedied; and, as the villagers could not agree upon a scheme, the said Authority took the matter in hand, and the present works were executed in 1884. The water is now brought into filter and storage tanks at the Four Lane Ends, a little over half a mile west of the village, and is thence conveyed in cast-iron pipes to the houses and farm-yards in the village. The cost of the work was about £350, and the villagers are rated at so much a house, and so much per head for cattle; and so great is the improvement and convenience over the old system that the rate is always cheerfully paid. The old stone troughs yet remain in their places, but are of no use, with the exception of one,

into which a ball-tap connected with the main is fixed. The Tarn has disappeared, and none regret its loss, except those who used in winter to have their boisterous mirth upon its ice-clad surface ; while all admit that the new system is better than the old.

The Village Feast.

Strutt, in his "Sports and Pastimes of the People of England," says :—"In the northern parts of this nation, the inhabitants of most country villages are wont to observe some Sunday in a more particular manner than the other common Sundays of the year, namely, the Sunday after the dedication of their Church ; that is, the Sunday after the Saint's Day to which their Church is dedicated. Then the people deck themselves in their gaudiest clothes, and have open doors and splendid entertainments for the reception and treating of their relations and friends, who visit on that occasion from each neighbouring town. The morning is spent for the most part at Church ; the remaining part of the day is spent in eating and drinking, and so is a day or two afterwards, together with all sorts of rural pastimes and exercises, such as dancing on the green, wrestling, cudgelling, and the like." The above description of the village feast in the olden time, with some slight variations, apply to that of the present day, though every aged person whom you speak to on the subject will say "Feasts are not now like

what they were when I was young ; there was some fun then."

TIMBLE FEAST is somehow determined by that of Otley, the latter falling on the first Sunday after the 2nd of August, while Timble Feast always falls the week before, so that in this current year, 1894, it will fall on the 29th of July.

The villagers' favourite game is quoits, and has been for many generations, and matches have frequently been played between young men of different villages. A veteran at the game said, when speaking of his youthful days, "We were matched against Burley five times, and beat them every time. At that time there were in Timble ten men more than six feet high." The game is practised by the young men nearly every summer evening, the length of pitch being always 21 yards.

In the game of quoits, says Strutt, the exertion required is moderate, because the exercise does not depend so much upon superior strength as upon superior skill. The quoit seems evidently to have derived its origin from the ancient discus, and with us in the present days is a circular plate of iron, perforated in the middle, not always of one size, but larger or smaller, to suit the strength or convenience of the several candidates.

For many years, Mr. Robinson Gill has sent over from America a sum of £2 or £3 as a contribution towards the maintenance of the games and sports at Timble Feast, and about half of this sum is usually given in prizes for foot races and other athletic exercises. The

other half has usually been held in hand until the busy season of hay-making is over, when a contest at quoit playing takes place, after which a supper, followed by a social evening, is had at the Village Inn, towards which the remainder of the donation is devoted. Now, when they have a room for the purpose, we suppose the youth of Timble will indulge in the pleasing diversion of dancing.

The City'of Refuge Lodge Friendly Society.

This Institution, whose meetings are held at the "Timble Inn," Timble Great, was inaugurated as a branch of "The Honourable Order of the Peaceful Dove," August 18th, 1849, by John Margerrison, William Steel, Charles Hardisty, and Thomas Simpson, members of the Norwood Lodge of that Order. Amongst the members initiated at the first meeting were: Henry Jeeffrey, Henry Lister, Lister Holmes, John Lister, Jonathan Spence, James Smith, and George Davey. From the outset the Lodge grew and flourished, and soon surpassed the other Lodges in the neighbourhood. About 1880, the Order showing signs of decay, the Timble Lodge decided to start out on a separate and independent existence, and rules were drawn up to meet the new conditions. The new rules are introduced by the following spirited remarks:—"The City of Refuge Lodge, of which we are members, has now a separate and independent

existence. We are thrown upon the world alone, as it were, dependent upon our own strength, to contend with the hindrances that stand in the path of a judicious management of the affairs of Friendly Societies." "Having taken this responsible position upon ourselves, it behoves us, as a Lodge, and individually as men, to show to the world that it needs no Acts of Parliament or Legally Registered Code of Laws to enable us to manage the affairs of our Lodge on a sound and permanent system. In order to secure a continuance of the prosperity which we have enjoyed in the past, it is more than ever necessary for each individual member to act honestly and fairly in all his dealings with the Lodge." Then follow the rules, fifty-seven in number, drawn up and adopted on the seventh day of August, 1880. Signed, Jerome Petty (Chairman), Joseph Spence, George Dickinson, Joseph Holmes, junr., Charles Ward, Eli Dale, John Dickinson (Secretary). The Annual Meeting of the Lodge is held on Whit-Tuesday, when a dinner is provided for all members free, after which is a procession to and from Fewston Church, headed by a band of music. The number of members at the end of the year 1893 was 128. During that year the receipts were £115 7s. 7d., and the payments £94 3s. 7d., showing a gain upon the year of £21 4s. 0d. At the same time the Lodge was possessed of cash and invested capital amounting to £1,055 4s. 4d.

Thackwray.

Thackwray, the pasture or place where the *Thack* or Thatch grew, is believed, on fairly good authority, to be the place whence originated the now world-renowned name of Thackwray, Thackery, &c., &c. The Rev. Thomas Parkinson, who knew the place from his earliest days, thus speaks of it in his "Leaves and Lays of the Forest," p. 201. "On the southern banks of the Washburn, about half a mile above Fewston, there stood until lately a substantial farm-house bearing the name of 'Thackeray' or 'Thackray.' Four years ago [1878] it was entirely removed to make way for the upper reservoir of the Leeds Corporation, the waters of which now completely cover the site. The situation was at the western end of a large flat holm, which occupied the bottom of the valley, and not more than one hundred yards from the river. To the west of the house, and at about the same distance, ran a large brook, descending to the Washburn from the high moorlands, and named 'Thackeray Beck.'

"The house, lately removed, was comparatively a modern one, but there can be no doubt it occupied the place of one of more ancient date."

"In 1666, A.D., mention is made of the place as 'Thackera Holm,' in connection with a surrender, in the Forest Court at Knaresborough, of lands at Low Cragg."

As a place name it is of great antiquity, and we find the personal appellation close to it in very early times. In the Poll Tax Roll,

1379, we find in Villa de Tymble, *Willelmus de Thackwra*, and, from anything known to the contrary, this person might reside on the actual spot. In Thruscross, at the same period, we find another *Willelmus de Thackra*, and *Johannes de Thackwra*. In Askwith, immediately adjacent on the other side, is *Johannes de Takwra & uxor*. So that we find the name in the immediate neighbourhood of the place in very early times, hence we infer that it is not merely possible, but highly probable, that from this *place-name* originated the *personal-name* of Thackwray, under all its multifarious modes of spelling.

In 1730, Thackerey was occupied by a family named Walker, as in that year, according to the Fewston parish register, Mary, daughter of William Walker, of Thackerey, was baptised April 14th, and ten years later, 1740, Jane, daughter of William Walker, was baptised April 29th.

On the 20th of February, 1763, Thackerey was sold by Joseph Robinson to John Beecroft, and it continued in the possession of his descendants until the 25th of March, 1873, when it was sold by William Beecroft to the Leeds Corporation; and in 1878 all the buildings and fences were removed, and it now forms a portion of their Fewston reservoir.

The Fewston Reservoir.

This is the uppermost of the great lakes yet formed by the Leeds Corporation in the valley of the Washburn. It is a mile and three-

quarters in length, and covers an area of 156 acres. In some places the water is 60 feet in depth, and its capacity is 866 million gallons. It empties itself into the Swinsty Reservoir, which is 50 feet below its level. The work upon it was commenced in July, 1874, and finished in October, 1879. The cost was £146,557. The height of the embankment is 58 feet, and the length 525 yards, along which runs the high road from Fewston to Timble. At the northern end is the superintendent's house—cosy-looking and comfortable; on the right spreads the large lake-like Reservoir of Fewston; on the left is the long slope of the embankment, lawn-like and picturesque, terminated by a prospect across the equally large Reservoir of Swinsty. The old arch of Fewston Bridge is yet visible at the bottom of the embankment. The by-wash on the southern side, in times of flood, when the Reservoir overflows, forms a grand cascade.

The formation of these Reservoirs has entirely changed the appearance of the Washburn valley, substituting for the lively, sparkling, winding, ever-changing Washburn, with its banks fringed with native woods, a wide expanse of water. The Rev. Thomas Parkinson, in his "Leaves and Lays of the Forest," thus laments the change—

The hollies and the hazels
Are stript from Lane Ends Wood,
"The coppice" and its flowers
Are far beneath the flood.
The "shaw," where danced the fairies,
The "gap," where rabbits played,
The hedge and dark green alders
In watery depths are laid.

“ The Gill ” is filled with waters,
 Where but the Green Beck ran ;
 And from Low Cragg to Ridsdale,
 Waters the valley span.

Summary of the Rainfall at Timble Great and Swinsty for twenty years—1874-1893—kindly communicated by Alderman Cooke, Chairman of the Leeds Corporation Water-works Committee :—

YEAR.	SWINSTY.	TIMBLE.
1874	29'47	31'67
1875	36'84	38'01
1876	41'39	40'42
1877	45'67	46'63
1878	36'84	37'73
1879	30'73	30'62
1880	42'37	44'24
1881	40'28	43'39
1882	42'67	45'43
1883	36'19	40'14
1884	31'11	34'05
1885	30'43	33'67
1886	37'39	40'13
1887	24'72	26'64
1888	39'09	37'24
1889	31'13	30'33
1890	35'01	33'75
1891	37'89	34'36
1892	41'43	39'46
1893	31'28	29'91
TOTAL ..	721'93	737'82
AVERAGE PER YEAR	36'09	36'89

Great Timble in the Directories.

Edward Baines, in his "History, Directory, and Gazetteer of the County of York," 1822, thus briefly describes this township:—TIMBLE (Great), in the parish of Fewston, wap. of Claro, liberty of Knaresborough; 6 miles N. of Otley; pop. 233. Hawes, George, shoemaker. Spence, David, tailor. Ward, Stephen, blacksmith. *Farmers*: Gill, Stephen; Gill, John; Holmes, Joseph; Jeffries, Jonathan; Pollard, John; Whitaker, George.

Timblings, in the parish of Fewston, wap. of Claro; 6 miles N.W. of Otley.

The account of Great Timble in William White's Directory of Yorkshire, 1838, is fuller than the previous one, and the number of names of residents greater.

GREAT TIMBLE, $5\frac{1}{2}$ miles N. by W. of Otley, is a village and township, with 218 inhabitants, and 1,450 acres, including the hamlets of *Timblings*, *Gill-beck*, and *White-cragg*. At the enclosure of Knaresborough Forest, in 1778, 2a. 1r. 5p. were allotted to the poor of Fewston parish, and the School at Timble, but this land was improperly sold by the overseers twenty-five years ago for £10.

Directory: Marked 1 are at *Gill Beck*, 2 *Timble Ings*, and 3 at *White Cragg*.

Hardisty, Wm., schoolmaster. (3) Kidson, Thomas, tailor. Lister, James, vict., "Timble Inn." (1) Newbould, James, wheelwright. Rayner, William, blacksmith. Spence, David, tailor. *Farmers*: Beecroft, John; (3) Bramley, Wm.; (1) Cockshot, St.; (3) Denby, John; Dickinson, Charles; (1) Fairburn, Geo.;

(1) Holmes, John ; Holmes, Joseph ; Jackson, Wm. ; Lister, H. D. and J. ; (1) Margerison, M. ; (1) Newsome, John ; Newsome, Michl. ; (2) Patterson, Joseph ; Rawlinson, Joshua ; Thompson, John ; Todd, Joseph ; Ward, Wilks ; Wood, Michael. *Shoemakers* : Holmes, William ; (3) 'Peel, Thomas ; (3) Teale, Stephen.

Kelly's Directory, 1861, shews a marked advance on the previous ones, and is the last we shall give.

TIMBLE GREAT is a township and village in the parish of Fewston, $5\frac{1}{2}$ miles north-west from Otley. There is a chapel for Wesleyans. The population in 1851 was 184, and in 1861 it was 224 ; and the acreage is 1,460. The soil is clayey ; the sub-soil is clay and rock. The Duke of Devonshire is Lord of the Manor. Gill Beck, Timble Ings, and White Cragg are hamlets in this township.

Directory : Lister, Mr. David ; Smith, Mr. Simon. *Commercial* : Beecroft, John, farmer ; Bramley, John, farmer, White Cragg ; Dickinson, John, farmer and registrar of births and deaths for Fewston district ; Holmes, Joseph, farmer ; Holmes Joseph, shoemaker ; Holmes, Lister, farmer and grazier ; Holmes, Sushannah (Mrs.), shop-keeper ; Hudson, Henry, farmer ; Kendall, William, wheelwright, Gill Beck ; Lister, George, farmer ; Lister, James, "Timble Inn" and farmer ; Lister, John, farmer ; Lister, Sarah (Mrs., exors. of), farmer ; Margerison, Michael, farmer ; Marston, Simeon, junr., farmer, Timble Ings ; Renton, John, farmer ;

Rowlingson, John, farmer; Spence, Jonathan, tailor; Spence, Joseph, tailor; Steel, Thomas, blacksmith; Teale, Stephen, farmer, White Cragg; Thackwray, Joseph, farmer; Todd, Joseph, farmer; Ward, Wilks, farmer; Wilson, Ralph, farmer, White Cragg; Wilson, Ralph, farmer, Gill Beck; Wood, Michael, farmer.

POST OFFICE.—Mrs. Mary Ann Jeffrey, postmistress. Letters arrive from Otley 11 a.m., and are despatched at 3 p.m. Otley is the nearest Money Order Office. (The Post Office and Postmistress were at this time at Blubberhouses.) The Registrar of Births and Deaths and the Postmistress are indicative of progress in the means of communication with distant places.

The Registration District mentioned above is that of Fewston, and was formed on the 1st of July, 1837, when Joseph Roundell, of Norwood, was appointed first Registrar. At that time, the district included the townships of Fewston, Blubberhouses, Norwood, Timble Great, Timble Little, and Haverah Park. The last-named place was taken from it, and added to Harrogate about 1864. On the death of Joseph Roundell, John Dickinson was appointed Registrar in April, 1854. The Wharfedale Union was formed in 1861, when a re-arrangement of the district took place, and Fewston was made to include Arthington, Blubberhouses, Castley, Norwood, Farnley, Fewston, Leathley, Lindley, Newall-with-Clifton, Pool, Stainburn, Timble Great, and Timble Little. Population in 1891, 2,692; area, 25,361 acres. John Dickinson was

appointed Vaccination Officer in 1871.

On the death of the elder John Dickinson, in August, 1875, his son, also named John Dickinson, was appointed Registrar and Vaccination Officer. Besides holding these offices, for the last twenty years he has taken a prominent part in all the public affairs of the township. In the management of "The City of Refuge Benefit Society" he has always taken an active and leading part, and acted as its secretary. On the formation of the Fewston School Board in April, 1875, he was elected a member, after a contest. On the re-seating of Fewston Church, he was treasurer.* He has held various township offices, and been waywarden for the last seven or eight years. He is superintendent of the Timble Waterworks, under the Rural Sanitary Authority; a trustee and secretary of "The Robinson Free Library," a Fire Insurance agent, besides being a builder and farmer.

The Postmistress resides at Fewston, from whence the letters are distributed by messenger in Timble, in which place is an iron box built into a wall for posting purposes only.

Timble Great is in the Otley Parliamentary

* Fewston Church was re-seated in 1884. The circular inviting subscriptions is dated 6th February, 1884, and the Church was re-opened on 26th March, 1885. Churchwardens, David Petty, Richard Wilson and Lister Holmes. Amongst the chief subscribers were C. B. E. Wright, Esq., Bolton Hall, £20; Robinson Gill, New York, U.S.A., £20; Rev. J. M. Ashley, the Vicar, £19 2s.; His Grace the Duke of Devonshire, £10; Dr. Robert Collyer, New York, U.S.A., £10. The total outlay was £308 8s. 8d.

Division of the West Riding of Yorkshire, and the number of electors is 25. For County Councils the number is 29.

Population, Statistics, &c.

The population in 1801 was 172; in 1811, 210; in 1821, 233; in 1831, 218; in 1841: in this year enumerated jointly with Little Timble, when the numbers were—inhabited houses 43, uninhabited 2, males 121, females 99, total 220; in 1851, 184; in 1861, houses 36, males 97, females 78, total 175; in 1871, houses 39, males 109, females 78, total 187; in 1881, houses 34, males 93, females 78, total 171; in 1891, houses 25, males 61, females 48, total 109.

This great decrease of population was caused by the completion of the Leeds Corporation Waterworks, on which at one time upwards of 700 men were employed.

Valuation to the County Rate, 1849, £997.


Valuation to the Property Tax, 1858, £1161.

Valuation to the Poor Rate, 1857, £1035.

Valuation to the County Rate, 1881, £3042.

The quantity of land taken from the township of Timble Great for the formation of the Leeds Corporation Waterworks was 45 acres, the present ratable value of which is £803 5s.

Snowden,

 HE hamlets of High and Low Snowden occupy a portion of the southern slope of the valley of the Washburn, and the northern portion of the township of Askwith, in the parish of Weston, lying between Timble Gill and the Washburn on the north, and Snowden Craggs on the south, varying in altitude above the sea level from 360 feet, near the confluence of Timble Gill with the Washburn, to 987 feet, the highest point of Craggs Ridge.

We can only give a brief outline of its history. Askwith is three times mentioned in the Domesday survey, first among the lands of Roger de Todenī :—In Ascuid, Gamel had one carucate of land to be taxed.—*Bawdwen's Dom. Boc.*, p. 122.

Again, among the lands of William de Perci :—III. Manors. In Ascuid, Ulchil, and Gamel, and Bernulf, had three carucates of land to be taxed, where there may be two ploughs. William de Perci has these, but they are waste, except that in Ascuid there are four villanes with two ploughs, and the value ten shillings.—*Ibid*, p. 165.

Again, among the lands of Gospatric :—In Ascuid, Gospatric two carucates of land to be taxed. There is land to one plough. He has

now there two villanes and one bordar with one plough, and it pays seven shillings.—*Ibid*, p. 218.

In Kirkby's Inquest, A.D. 1284, p. 44, *Surtees Soc.*: Ascwyth. Patricius de Westwyke held the third part of Askwyth for the half of the fourth part of one knight's fee of John de Vescy, and the same John of the King in *capite*, but it is not said by what services.

Item. Maugerus le Vavasur held two parts of the aforesaid *vill.* of the heirs of Percy, for the fourth part of a knight's fee, and the same heirs of the King in *capite*.

In the "Enumeration of the Knight's Fees in Yorkshire," 31st of Edward I., Askwith is stated to be of two fees—in the fee of Percy, four carucates of land, where twelve carucates make a knight's fee; and of the fee of Vescy, two carucates, where fourteen carucates make a fee.

In *Nomina Villarum*, 9th Edward II., Adam de Middleton and Isabella de Marton are the Lord and Lady of the two Manors of Askwith.

In 1379, Thomas Newsom and his wife paid poll tax (4d.) in *Villa de Askwyth*.

In a rental of the Percy lands in the barony of Spofforth, at the latter end of the reign of Elizabeth, in SNOWDEN and SCALES, John Linley held in Snowden one messuage and — acres of land; annual value —; sometime held by Vavasour. Usual services; no rent.

William Newsome held in Snowden one messuage and — acres of land (arable,

meadow, and pasture); annual value 66s. 8d.; sometime held by Vavasour, then Shaw, and lately by James Newsome, his father. Usual services; no rent.

William Richardson held in Snowden one messuage and — acres of land (arable, meadow, and pasture). Usual services; no rent.

At the Quarter Sessions held at Knaresborough, June 9th, 40th Elizabeth, 1598, John Lyndley, of Snowden, gentleman, and William Richardson, also of Snowden, were Grand Jurymen, as they also were at the similar Sessions held October 6th, in the same year, and October 1st, 1599.

The following brief pedigree of Linley is given by the herald Richard St. George in 1612:—

LINLEY, OF SNOWDEN.

John Linley, of Stainburn, a younger brother of the house of Leathley.

Christopher Linley, of Snowden, married Ann, daughter to John Milner, of Pudsey, gent.

John Linley, of Snowden, living in 1612, married Cecily, daughter of George Sheffield, of Blubberhouses; had issue—

John Linley, son and heir, aged 22 in 1612; William, Henry, Christopher, Samuel, Martyn, Sheffield, Josyan, Susan.

John Lindley, William Richardson, and Robert Newsome, all in Askwith, were rated to the *tenth*, imposed for carrying on a war in Brittany in 1475, the collection of which cost

the Earl of Northumberland his life in 1489.

The family of Richardson quickly disappear.

The Fewston parish register gives us one glimpse of Lindley—"The wyfe of John Lindley was buried the 8th day of December, 1609."

The Newsomes took deep root in the land and flourished vigorously for a long time, and have only recently become extinct. In 1672, three of the name paid hearth tax for their houses in Askwith. The following scraps relative to their family life have been gleaned from the Fewston parish register:—

"1596. Jennet Newsome, buried 28th April.

"1599. Geo. Newsome had a child buried 7th Decr.

"1601. John, son of Geo. Newsome, was bap. 30th Aug.

"1604. Peter Newsome had a child buried 26th Oct.

"1607. The wife of George Newsome and her child were buried the 18th of December.

"1608. The wife of William Newsome, buried 8th April.

"1610. George Newsome and Katherine Curtis, married 23rd May.

"1672, November. The wife of John Newsome, of Snowden, buried 21st day.

"1676, July. John Newsome, buried 22nd day.

"1724. John Newsome and Sarah Sugden were married Dec. 30th.

"1729. John, son of John Newsome, was bap. the 27th May.

“1734. Margaret, daughter of John and Sarah Newsome, of Weston parish, bap. Feb. 23rd.

“1737. Elizabeth, daughter of John Newsome, of Weston parish, bap. 7ber. 25th.”

Many more isolated extracts might be given relative to this family, but neither the registers of Fewston nor Weston (in which parish Snowden is situate) furnish the means of compiling even a meagre pedigree of the family, those of the last-named parish being very deficient. The first entry is the baptism of Elizabeth Newsom, Jany. 5th, 1703; the next is 1703, John Newsom, March 8th.

The marriage settlement of John Newsome, made April 30th, 1725, between John Newsome, junr., of Snowden, in the parish of Weston, yeoman, and Thomas Sugden, of Timble, in the parish of Fewston, yeoman, and Henry Irish, of Wythera Lane, in the said parish of Fewston, yeoman, states—“That for and in consideration of a marriage already solemnized between the said John Newsome and Sarah Newsome, his now wife, daughter and heir of the said Thomas Sugden, and of the sum of £200 of lawful British money paid, or secured to be paid, by the said Thomas Sugden, as a marriage portion for the said Sarah, and of such further advantage and fortune as will accrue to the said John Newsome by the said marriage; he, the said John Newsome, doth grant, bargain, sell, &c., unto the said Thomas Sugden and Henry Irish, all that messuage, house, or tenement, three barns thereto belonging, situate in

Snowden, aforesaid, and now in his possession, and also all those several closes of land hereafter mentioned—one orchard, one garden, one close called Backside, one other close called Gellshaw, one other close called Little Close, one other close called Tenbutts, one called the Lane, one called Cockshott, one called Gillside, one called Higginbanks, one called the Spring, one called Over Sunnybank, another close called Low Sunnybank, with the wood, and all the appurtenances—To have and to hold the said premises to the use and behoof of the said John Newsome, for the term of his natural life; and, after his decease, to the use of the said Sarah Newsome, for her life, for and in name of her jointure, and in full bar of any dower or thirds; and, afterwards, to the use of their first, second, and other sons, &c.”

By a deed, dated August 3rd, 1833, it is declared that the said John Newsome and Sarah Newsome have both long since departed this life, having had issue two sons, namely, John Newsome, who died in the lifetime of his father, the said John Newsome, the elder, without leaving issue, and Thomas Newsome, in whom the whole estate became vested.

By deed, dated May 14th, 1729, made between Susan Pullan, of Timble, widow and relict of Anthony Pullan, late of Timble, aforesaid, yeoman, deceased, and John Newsome, the younger, of Upper Snowden, in the parish of Weston, the said Susan Pullan, for the sum of £200, sells to the said John

Newsome all those several closes of inclosed land and one barn, called Great Linla Field, and one barn standing thereon, another close called Little Pickhill, another close Sun Pickhill, another close called North Pickhill, another close called North Pickhill-head, another close called Mare Pasture, another close called Rye Close, another close called Rough Close, which said barn and closes are situate, lying, and being within the township, town fields, and territories of Snowden, aforesaid. Susan Pullan signs with her mark, a large S, which appears to have been impressed by a stamp. The witnesses are Aaron Hardcastle, John Jeffray, junr., and Jno. Wakefield, junr., all good penmen.

On December 31st, 1765, John Newsome, the elder, of Lower Snowden, gave and granted to his son, Thomas Newsome, of Upper Snowden, in consideration of the natural love and affection which he had for him, and for his future preferment and advancement in the world, comprising all that messuage, or dwelling house, with the barn and all other outbuildings, with the following closes of land—Great Nickafield, Little Nickafield, Sun Pickhill, North Pickhill, North Pickhill-head, Mare Pasture, Rye Close, and Rough Close, all in Upper Snowden, and in possession of Thomas Newsome. John Newsome, the elder, signs the deed in a good bold hand; Thomas, the son, makes *his mark*, as do all his sons afterwards.

On the 29th of January, 1733, John Newsom, of Upper Snowden, in the parish of

Weston, yeoman, let on lease to William Andrew, of Nether Snowden, yeoman, a house, two barns, and certain closes of land, known by the names of Intacks, Bent Hill, Little Nicckah Field, Long Close, Berrickfield Close, House-ground, and Low Pasture, now, or late, in the possession of John Newsom, the elder (father of the above said John Newsom), for the term of eleven years, for the yearly rent or sum of twelve pounds of British money.

The above-mentioned two members of the Newsome family are probably commemorated in the following inscriptions on tombstones in Weston Churchyard. "Here lieth interred the remains of Mr. John Newsome, the elder, of Upper Snowden, in this parish, who departed this life the 9th day of March, *Anno Domini* 1774, aged 82 years.

"Also, the body of John Newsome, grandson of the above John Newsome, of Snowden, who departed this life April the 4th, 1811, aged 25 years."

On an adjoining stone is inscribed—

"Under this stone resteth the body of John Newsome, the younger, eldest son of Mr. John Newsome, of Upper Snowden, in this parish, who died the 31st day of May, *Anno Domini* 1773, and in the 44th year of his age.

"Also nigh this place lieth Hannah Newsome, youngest daughter of the said Mr. John Newsome, the elder. She died the 20th day of August, *Anno Domini* 1773, and in the 21st year of her age."

What is rather singular, no entry of these

burials is to be found in the Weston register. There is, however, one, which forms a long connecting link between the last century and the present—

“Baptisms. 1733, Feb. 24th, Thos., son of John Newsam.”

Turning a long way onward, amongst the burials, occurs “Thomas Newsom, Snowden, 1833, Nov. 16th, aged 96.” Here the register proves beyond the reach of doubt, that he was upwards of a hundred years old, and this is supported by the tradition of the family and the neighbourhood. Another entry in the same register gives us another instance of Newsome longevity. “Burials. Mary Newsam, of Fewston [late of Snowden], May 12th, 1849, aged 95.” She was the widow of the above Thomas Newsome. She died at Whydrah, in Fewston parish.

The venerable patriarch, Thomas Newsome, resided at Shaws Hall, Upper Snowden, which was his own property, along with four or five adjoining farms, so that he was a man of wealth and high social position in the neighbourhood. He appears also to have kept a well furnished table, as he was in the habit of killing, at least, two fat beasts, to salt for hung beef, and four or five fat pigs, for the sustenance of his family and household during the winter season, while fat sheep were consumed without stint in the summer. He married, rather late in life, a woman of the name of Leuty, living at or near Yeadon. She must have been many years younger than himself, as his youngest son, Henry, was born

when his father was seventy years of age. The issue of the marriage was five sons and three daughters, who all grew up to maturity. Of these sons, Michael was the eldest (baptised at Fewston Church, May 25th, 1787). He raised a numerous family by a woman named Ann Renton, with whom he cohabited, and consequently the children bear their mother's name. To these, Michael Newsome left his property, real and personal. The farm was sold on their mother's death, about 1860, to Mr. John Bramley, of Norwood, who by his will, in 1889, devised it to his daughter, Elizabeth, wife of Mr. William Hare Gill, of Felliscliffe, the present owner.

The other four brothers lived and died bachelors, all fine, stalwart fellows, so far as physical appearance was concerned; and old people yet tell of these four bachelor brothers, well mounted, dressed in knee-breeches and riding boots, along with their two younger sisters, also notable horse-women, creating quite a sensation as they cantered along in gallant style to Ripley Fair. They had good personal appearance, youth, and wealth; everything but education, and that their father appears to have quite neglected, for of book learning they had none.

Richard was the next son in point of age (born Sep. 23rd, 1790). He was also owner of a large, old-fashioned house, with a farm attached. He let his land to others to cultivate, and lived in a portion of the house. His chief employment during many years of his life was drinking beer, of which

his stint was sixteen pints daily, with the exception of Sunday, when he abstained, and rested from his labour. He used to start off home from the Village Inn at Timble in a brisk, lively manner, shouting and singing, or rather making an incoherent noise; but about midway of his journey he would lie down on the ground and sleep for an hour, all seasons of the year—rain or snow were alike to him—and yet he lived to be 80 years of age, and was buried at Weston, September 8th, 1870. He is said by those who knew them all to have been the most intellectual of the family, and in personal appearance bearing a close resemblance to Henry Ward Beecher, the famous American preacher. His mind being unfurnished, when sensual pleasures lost their power to please, he had no consolation, and died a miserable old man.

Robert was next of the bachelor brothers in point of birth. He owned and occupied the old homestead—Shaws Hall—and his sister Ellen and her husband, Mark Fairburn, lived along with him. Later, Mary Fairburn, who married Edward Kent, lived with him until they removed to Clint, when he went along with them, and died there July 2nd, 1866. He was the tallest and most portly of the band of brothers, at the same time the most ignorant and childish.

Joseph, also owner and occupier of his own lands, also in High Snowden. In his younger day he was a capital farmer, and also a superior football player. In later life he became the victim of a kind of religious

mania, and imagined that he had been in a trance, and seen heaven and hell. He would hold forth sometimes, in loud sepulchral tones, about his vision, mixed with religious and other incoherent matters, to the amusement of some of his hearers and the pity of others. He lived to be seventy-four years of age, and was buried at Weston, April 1st, 1865.

Henry was the youngest of the four bachelor brothers. His homestead was situate near the old Hall, and the buildings were, most of them, of a comparative modern date. Like his brethren, he was uneducated, yet in his younger days he was an active man of business, and carried out many improvements on his farm. The mill stood upon his land, and he would not allow it to be pulled down during his life time. (All the Newsomes pronounced mill "minle.") As his elder brothers died, and their property came into his hands, he became a spoiled child of fortune, and got notions of his great importance as a landed proprietor. In his younger days he was a man of fine presence, and had great aptness in the training of horses and dogs. His latter days were joyless and comfortless. He lived to be seventy-seven years of age, and was buried at Weston, December 1st, 1881.

Of the three sisters Newsome, Sarah was the eldest of the family. Born in 1780, she lived to the mature age of sixty, when she married John Carter, a young man of about twenty years of age, and the marriage turned out to be as miserable and unhappy an union

as it is possible to imagine. Carter was a wild, reckless, somewhat clever young fellow, who soon squandered Sarah's fortune of £400, for which he had married her, and then the pair hung upon her brothers for their subsistence, especially during the winter season, for Carter would do farm work during hay-time and harvest, at which he was apt and skilful; during the winter he was equally expert as a poacher. He had a dog named "Toozer," as clever as himself, of whose exploits many extraordinary tales are told. This ill-matched pair struggled on together for twenty years, when Sarah died at the age of eighty years, and was buried at Weston, February 15th, 1860. Having now lost his home with the Newsomes, Carter drifted away to Guiseley, where, when sixty years of age, he married a young woman of twenty, and as a natural consequence had several children, and much trouble and poverty.

Ann, the next sister, married James Pearson, of Skelding, near Grantley, by whom she had one son, Thomas, and four daughters, who eventually became possessed of a share of the property of her bachelor brothers. She died in March, 1869.

Ellen, the other sister, married Mark Fairburn, of Whidrah, near Fewston, by whom she had one daughter, who married Edward Kent. She also came in for a large share of her brother's property, and died July 2nd, 1866.

Thus passed away the Newsomes from Snowden. The venerable Thomas Newsome

might look upon his five stalwart sons with pride, and reasonably think that his race and name would dominate Snowden for many generations ; and now, in less than fifty years from his death, their lands have passed into other hands, and even the name has become extinct.

Topographical Tour.

The best way for the pedestrian from Great Timble to visit Snowden is by the old bridle road, which has certainly been the first used for that purpose, and is the most interesting and beautiful now. Though a bridle road, the horse and his rider are seldom seen upon it. Trees and bushes overhang its narrow trackway, while its sides are clothed with grasses, flowers, and ferns, in great variety and beauty ; a sight to gladden the heart of a botanist or lover of nature ; and, as they are protected from cattle, and sheltered from winds, they are seen in a perfect state. Timble Gill is a tangled mass of native wood, flowering plants, ferns, and greenery of all kinds. The slender stream is crossed by stepping-stones, for lack of bridge, and a small brooklet runs along the side of the pathway up the opposite side of the hill, rippling and murmuring as it glances through shade and sunshine. Having gained the open country, the first house we come to is occupied by Robert Procter ; a fabric of venerable appearance, two storeys in height, and covered with an enormous thickness of

thatch. In the front are four windows of three lights each, divided by stone mullions, the upper ones yet retaining their old glazing.

Over the door is inscribed ^{I.R.} S. almost certainly ^{1683.} the initials of one of the Richardson family.

Snowden Low Hall is situate a short distance south-east of the last mentioned, and is a large building, with some pretensions to architectural style. It is two storeys in height, three rooms in length, with windows of three lights each; the original mullions remain, but the glass is modern. In the centre of the front is a large projecting porch of two storeys, of equal height with the gables, and like them, finished with stone globes on each apex, and also on projecting side corbels. This kind of entrance has been much in favour with the builders in the Washburn valley during the seventeenth century, from the many examples of it yet remaining. There is no name or date over the door. On an outbuilding is G. N., indicative of some of the Newsome family. Judging from the size of the fireplace, the hospitality practised at the hall must have been extensive, as the arch over it is eleven feet in length, and its depth five feet. This farm, and the two adjoining ones, are now the property of C. B. E. Wright, Esq., of Bolton Hall, Bolton-by-Bowland, near Gisburn. At a distance of two or three fields westwards, is a house, now in ruins, of similar age to the last mentioned, but much smaller. The style of building and workmanship are both indi-

cative of the seventeenth century. It is now "a roofless cot decayed and rent."

A dwelling, close to the Moor, bearing the name of Crag House, is a modern building, so situate that the sun (though fronting due south) does not shine upon one of the windows for five weeks during mid-winter, the rays being intercepted by the bold height of Snowden Crag (830 feet), and an enormous boulder on the summit called, from its shape, "The Heater Crag." At this house lived Joseph Procter, a man highly respected by all who knew him, for his quiet unassuming manners, and his remarkable attainments as a scholar. About the year 1853, he commenced taking "Cassell's Popular Educator," and in his lonely home, near the edge of the Moor, he worked out, without any assistance, almost all the difficult problems in algebra which came out in that publication. His name is mentioned several times in the *numbers* as having given correct answers to difficult problems in that abstruse branch of mathematics. He also obtained considerable knowledge of many other branches of learning treated of in that publication. He also mastered Pitman's Phonography, which he could read as easily as common print. In any difficult question relating to figures he was for a long time considered the leading authority in the district, and, notwithstanding all the modern aids and appliances supplied by School Boards, and other means of education, it will be a long time before we look upon his like again. He died very suddenly

of apoplexy, when returning home from Otley market, on the footpath in the fields near Newall Carr top, February 19th, 1886, at the age of 59.

Although a pleasant road in summer from Otley to Timble, over Snowden Moor (920 feet) and Saltergate, it is a severe trial in winter, when the north wind is driving a snow-storm, as was fatally proved on February 9th, 1861, when Joseph, son of Michael Wood, of Timble, a youth of fifteen years, after having driven a cow to Otley for Mr. Holmes, cattle dealer, returning on horseback, encountered a snowstorm on the heights of Snowden Moor. Becoming bewildered by the tempest, he either dismounted, or fell from his horse, between two large drifts, and perished in the snow. He was found quite dead a few hours afterwards, the horse and dog beside him, apparently none the worse for their exposure.

SHAWS HALL, in High Snowden, may be regarded as the head-quarters of the Newsome family when in its most flourishing state. It is entered from the high road by a gateway between two stone pillars, eight feet six inches in height, yet remaining in position. The house is large, two storeys in height, and three rooms in length. Two of the original windows are of ten lights each, the old mullions yet remaining. The entrance is through a porch of one storey, the corbels on the sides and apex are finished with stone globes. Over the entrance is inscribed "I. N., 1687." In a niche above is the bust of a man with a long face and a low forehead, inscribed

"R. Gill, 1848," which we were told was a youthful freak in sculpture of Mr. Robinson Gill, the founder of the Timble Free School and Library. On a stone in the stable wall are the initials "G. N." The eaves of this house, and many other old dwellings, are crowded with nests of the house martin.

Robert Newsome was the last of the name who owned and occupied this antique mansion. His sister, Ellen, and her husband, Mark Fairburn, resided with him until her death, July 2nd, 1866; and then her daughter, Mary, and her husband, Edward Kent, who left the old homestead and removed to Clint, where Mary Kent died February 22nd, 1892, and her husband, Edward Kent, October 16th in the same year. The estate now is managed by trustees for the benefit of their children.

Another house and farm immediately adjoining the last mentioned, on the eastward, was the property and residence of Henry Newsome. The house is of modern erection (about 1780), and does not present any features of particular interest. Lower down in the valley, on a small stream, near the head of Timble Gill, some of the Newsome family had built a small corn mill; a very useful appendage to the estate, if it only ground the corn consumed by the Newsome families alone. It was pulled down and removed about the year 1884, and only slight traces of it now remain, except one or two old mill-stones, and the site of the dam, an area of about sixty yards in length by twenty yards in breadth, now slowly being filled up

by the growth and decay of vegetation within it, and mud washed down by the stream.

On the decease of Henry Newsome, in 1881, his estates passed to the representatives of his sister, Ann, wife of James Pearson, which they yet hold, with the exception of the house and farm which was left him by his father, and sold to Colonel Dawson, of Weston Hall, the present owner. The Pearson family holding what he had derived from his brothers, Joseph and Richard.

Across the breadth of two fields, from Shaws Hall, in a northerly direction, is another old homestead of the Newsome family—now in ruins. On the west gable, a modern addition, is inscribed "I. N., 1772." The old house, to which it is attached, is of a better class both in style and workmanship. It has the usual two storey porch in front, the upper projecting slightly over the lower. The windows are of four lights, both above and below. On the door head, within the porch, is inscribed "G. B., 1683." It was to this house that the father and mother of Mr. Robinson Gill came with their family from Gill Beck, and where the founder of the Free Library at Timble must have first conceived an affection for that village, which is destined to bear fruit now, and also in a far distant future. Dr. Collyer says: "It was in 1844 that they (the Gill's family) moved to a farm under the cold shoulder of Snowden, where the sun makes no haste to rise; a farm which brought no coin, but much care, for the savings of a life-time were left there, and

there the bright and brave mother died, her work well done. And it was from here that he emigrated to America, in 1851."

The eastern portion of this house (two rooms) was occupied by Richard Newsome, the owner, for many years. After his decease, his estates came into the hands of the representatives of his sister, Ann Pearson.

Passing northward, across a couple of fields, we come to another farmstead, which, with the lands adjacent, was also part of the Newsome's estate. The house has been re-built, and bears on the door head "I. N., 1731." This was the property of Joseph Newsome, who also died unmarried, when his estates went to the issue of his sister, Ann Pearson.

Michael Newsome, another member of this family, resided at Timble Ings, in the township of Great Timble. He was accidentally drowned, about 1835, at Otley—having left a small public house on the north side of the Wharfe, the night being very dark, he missed the way, and walked, or fell, into the river. The water was dragged for some days, but the body could not be found. His son, John, then at home at Timble, dreamed one night that he distinctly saw the body of his father under the second arch of the bridge, his body being in a crouching position, as if he had been moving on his hands and knees. He was so impressed by the dream that he sent men off next morning to search, and the body was found in the place and position he had described.

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